

Advanced English Collocations & Phrases in Dialogues

**get
going**

**take a
toll on**

**do
wonders**

**go to
extremes**

**have a
near miss**

**Make a
comeback**

*Master English collocations with
the aid of functional
dialogues once and for all*



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*Master English Collocations and Phrases With the
Aid of Functional Dialogues Once and For All*

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What is a collocation;

Collocation means a natural combination of words; it refers to the way English words are closely associated with each other. For example, *do* and *research* go together, so do *make* and *mistake*; *take* goes with *rest* and *get* with *worked up*.

Why learn collocations?

You need to learn collocations because they will help you to speak and write English in a more natural and accurate way. People will probably understand what you mean if you talk about *preparing everything* for a wedding, a meeting or an event, but your language will sound unnatural and might perhaps confuse. Did you mean *making arrangements*?

Learning collocations will also help you to increase your range of English vocabulary. For example, you'll find it easier to choose a word that fits the context better and has a more precise meaning. This is particularly useful if you are taking a written exam in English and want to make a good impression on the examiners.

Skilled users of the language may choose to create effects by varying the normal patterns of collocation, with the aim of either startling or amusing their audience.

You are more likely to be able to do this effectively if you have assimilated the standard patterns of language use presented in this book.

How to make the most of this book?

The book is designed to help the reader get a good grasp and command of the English language through providing a wide range of natural phrases and collocations in the form of dialogues.

Dialogues proved to be the optimal method when it comes to mastering a language. This is called functional learning. A '**Dialogue**' is a conversation between two or more people and also as an exchange of opinions or ideas. This serves as a potential future situation for the reader. Hence, as the reader needs the right or the correct phrase, they are likely to use the language they need accurately, confidently, efficiently and with less thinking or pausing. So it does pay dividends to pay a special attention to the dialogues and take good notes to create your dialogues depending on the language provided.

Go; Collocations and Phrases

Dialogue (1)

Kathy: Poor Silvia! She **went out of her mind** at the sight of her child lying lifeless on the cot.

Anne: Yeah! That's pathetic; nothing seems to **go her way** these days. I hope she can get over this trauma very soon!

Kathy: We've got to be by her side. How about going away on holiday to the wilds? A change of air will do wonders for her mood and spirits.

Anne: Actually; I have been **on the go** for a long while. I guess I could do with a holiday as well. Good idea!

Kathy: Mind you; you can't **go back on your word** or you will make a mess of the whole trip.

Anne: I promise I won't back out. This time I will take a leave even against my boss' will. I know he will make every excuse to hold me back; like they will **run around in circles** without me but I'm determined to **go against the tide** for Silva's sake.

Kathy: What if he **went bad**? Can you stand up to him?

Anne: Let him do his worst! I'm irreplaceable. If I quit, all their projects will go back to square

one. Never mind me; let's just find out a way to give Silva some solace.

Kathy: Yeah; poor she; her life is going from bad to worse. Her father's **company is going down the tubes** because Silva was in charge of almost everything and then she left the company out of the blue.

Anne: All the hard work and perseverance over the years **went down the drain**. She used to take pride in her family and achievements. Now she does not give a toss. **Go figure!**

Kathy: Not only this but her interest in painting has **fallen by the wayside** as she was overwhelmed with work most of the time.

Anne: Sometimes I feel that traumas are like a wake-up call before our passions and youth **go down the drain**.

Kathy: Right! I'll treat you to dinner tonight. But either it's on me or we **go Dutch**.

on the go: constantly in motion, active, or working.

You can't keep small children still; they are always on the go!

He was under tremendous pressure and on the go for more than 12 hours a day.

go/be out of (one's) mind: to become wild, irrational, senseless, or insane.

You have to be out of your mind to go swimming when it's below freezing outside.

You and Joe are getting married next month! Are you out of your mind?

go/run (a)round in circles; to act in a confused and disoriented manner to keep repeating the same actions or ideas without reaching conclusion.

We've argued this point for nearly two hours and we're just going round in circles.

I've been running round in circles trying to get all the reports finished before the meeting.

go one's way: to proceed in a manner that is in line with their plans or desires.

If new regulations go my way, I will make a clean sweep.

It's irrational to lose your cool when things don't seem to go your way.

go/swim against the tide/stream: to act or behave contrary to the majority of others.

It makes sense to show some flexibility. You'll take a beating if you insist on going against the tide!

go away with (someone/something): to depart or take a vacation with; to disappear.

I'm actually going away with my boyfriend next weekend, but I'm free the weekend after that.

He abandoned his wife and went away with all their money.

go back on (one's) word: to not do something one said one would do.

You can count on Steven. Once he makes a promise, he never goes back on his word.

go/be back to square one: to go back to an initial starting point.

If your complaint is not upheld, you may feel you are going back to square one.

The deal with the house fell through so I'm afraid we're back to square one.

go bad

1. To spoil, as of food or drink.

The fish will go back in half an hour unless you put it in the fridge.

2. To become unpleasant or unfavorable; to engage in lawlessness.

Good men can go bad when money is all that matters.

When good dogs go bad, there's no man who's their best friend.

go/fall by the wayside: to be ignored or set aside in favor of other more urgent matters.

Proposals for the new service fell by the wayside through lack of public support.

go down the drain/tubes

1. To be ruined or destroyed; to be caused to fail completely.

They were aware that their public image was rapidly going down the drain.

2. To be squandered; to be wastefully used up or discarded.

A single mistake and all that time and money would go down the drain.

go Dutch: to divide a check or bill so that each person contributes to it.

Since neither of us can afford to treat the other, let's go Dutch.

Go figure: It's really strange. Just try to figure it out.

The one time I get to the station on time, the train is delayed—go figure!

It's a terrible movie and it made \$200 million. Go figure!

go from bad to worse: to become more unpleasant or difficult than before.

We were hoping for an improvement but things kept going from bad to worse.

There is no denying that the qualities of our living have gone from bad to worse.

Exercise (1)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. We can preserve meat in tins so that it does not go
2. First, my car breaks down, then I lose the keys to my apartment—nothing's going my today!
3. Charley didn't believe in witchcraft but he didn't have the courage to go against the of public opinion.
4. I fear that safety standards will go down the as people seek to make most profit.
5. They were told a lot of wounded men had fallen by the
6. What if the dealer had a cash-in-hand offer from someone else and went back on his?
7. We left our dog in kennels when we went on holiday.
8. She always insists on going when they go out together.
9. Never shut the filter down, or the beneficial bacteria will die and you will go back to one.
10. My father always goes round in when he tries to show me how to do my homework.

Answers;

1. *bad* 2. *way* 3. *stream* 4. *drain* 5. *wayside* 6. *word* 7. *away* 8. *Dutch* 9. *square* 10. *circles*

Dialogue (2)

Bill: I'm sick of being a **go-between** for you and Dad—can you please just talk to him directly. I'll even **go further** and say that you've **gone over the top** in your obstinacy. You should reevaluate your life and come up with some reasonable options.

Martin: Are you? Well; don't bother yourself anymore. You just **go about your business** and I'll figure out some way to end this issue once and for all.

Bill: Come on! You're breaking my heart; I've changed my mind! How can I be of some help?

Martin: I'm not asking for the moon. All I want him to do is to give me a written consent for volunteering abroad. When Mary asked to do the same thing years ago, he immediately said to her "**go for it**". Isn't he doing me an injustice?

Bill: But you're too young to travel on your own. On top of that, you'll disrupt your education for frivolous reasons. Don't do anything rash—patience and only patience will **go a long way** toward achieving your goals.

Martin: I can only **go a long way** if I **go my own way**! I've had enough of my **going by the book**. It's time to take the bull by the horn and take a step in the direction of my dreams.

Bill: You're undoubtedly **going astray** young man! I don't want to **get back to the basics** and explain to you the importance of being disciplined and organized. You had better get yourself together before the changes in the educational system **go into effect**.

Martin: **Go easy on me** for heaven's sake. I'm just trying to **go beyond** common beliefs and conventions. There's no doubt that education matters but it's not everything.

Bill: You're not only **going over the top** but **against the current**. Ten years of study are going down the drain. What a waste!

Martin: Alright! I've made up my mind. I won't back off no matter what you say. I will even go further and **go on a hunger strike**.

Bill: Fair enough! Now; **go easy on** the bread. You've devoured half of it.

Martin: I tend to overeat when I'm irritated or something.

Bill: Sure! The hunger strike will certainly make it go further.

Martin: **Go climb a tree!**

go further

1. to say more about something, or make a more extreme point about it:

He was a very fine man, indeed. I'll go further; he was the most courageous man I ever knew.

2. to last longer; serve more people.

They watered down the soup to make it go further.

go/come into effect: of a law, policy, etc., to become official, legitimate, or valid.

The new time table will come into effect the day after tomorrow.

go/get back to basics: to return to the fundamental aspects of something.

Managers should get back to basics and examine the kind of products people really want.

It's time for us all to get back to basics and concentrate on what really matters.

go a long way: (of someone) to make success; (of something) useful.

Your contributions will go a long way towards helping children in need.

We are sure to go a long way as long as we keep up the momentum and maintain the pace of effort.

go about your business: to be busy with the things that you do every day.

As the group of pickers went about their business, police said there had been no further incidents.

Sara went about her business, more troubled than ever about Jenny's imminent arrival.

go astray

1. To deviate from what is good or expected.

Too much exposure to violence and pornographic scenes make it easy for kids to go astray.

2. To become lost.

Steer clear of foggy areas or you're sure to go astray.

3. To become fraught with error; to proceed in a way that will not lead to success.

Action without knowledge is aimless and tends to go astray.

a go-between: (noun) One who serves as a messenger between two people or groups.

If my go-between can't get permission for me to marry her, I guess I'll have to take the bull by the horns and go to see her father myself.

The ambassador has offered to act as a go-between for the two countries involved in the conflict.

go beyond: to exceed expectations or requirements.

Our products go beyond shampoos and conditioners - more problems are tackled like skin care.

They succeed because they operate with values that go beyond opportunism.

Go climb a tree/ Go fly a kite/ Go fry an egg: Go away and stop annoying me.

How dare you ask me to polish your shoes? What do you take me for? Go climb a tree!

go easy on (someone or something)

1. To be lenient with someone; to treat someone in a gentle way.

Go easy on Peter for a while - he's having a hard time at school.

2. To use only a small amount of something.

Go easy on the milk—that's all we've got till Monday.

Go for it! Go ahead! Give it a good try!

If you've been a stay-at-home parent and have a desire to get into the workforce, go for it.

Never doubt yourself. Don't care what people think and just go for it!

go /be over the top: to do something in a wild, excited or extreme way.

She hardly knew my grandfather! Her bawling at the funeral was definitely over the top.

His jokes are always in such bad taste; he can't be funny without going over the top.

go/do/play by the book: in accordance with rules or regulations.

I was horrified to receive a call from a customer who had done everything exactly by the book.

She feels she has to go by the book and can't use her creativity.

go (out) on strike: to refuse to work until conditions improve.

If the teachers go on strike, the children are the ultimate losers.

Exercise (2)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. After the graduation, the boy made friends with evil companions and went
2. He is an unimaginative individual who does everything by the
3. The job of the historian is to go the facts, and to make interpretations.
4. The workers should be allowed to go on and the masses to hold demonstrations.
5. A massive birthday party with princesses and pony rides is a little over the for a one-year-old, don't you think?
6. Unless we get back to in teaching, the standard of literacy will fall.
7. He recounted secret Privy Council discussions and acted as in Anglican-dissenter negotiations.
8. The money raised will go a long towards providing essential food and medicine.
9. New legislation to allow them to claim interest against late payments could come into soon.
10. Mix used cooking oil into your hoof oil to make it go

Answers;

1. *astray* 2. *book* 3. *beyond* 4. *strike* 5. *top* 6. *basics* 7. *go-between* 8. *way* 9. *effect* 10. *further*

Dialogue (3)

Mary: Alice is definitely going to **go places** with that singing voice of hers.

Steven: Yeah: she has got every reason to **get to the top** although her singing career was on shaky grounds last year. She has literally **gone from zero to hero** after that TV show.

Mary: I still remember how she **went bananas** before the show. Her mind **went completely blank** a few minutes before the interview. It was like a combination of excitement and nervousness.

Steven: I almost missed that show as our television **went blank** after the windstorm. I had to **go downtown** just to watch Alice live on TV.

Mary: We were roommates in university days. Believe it or not we used to **go broke** at the last five days of every month. At that time the economy was **going downhill** and her parents were **going down in the world**. Now, she's just rolling in money. Go figure!

Steven: Oh; yeah! Gone are those days when we had to go to school on foot because we were extremely short of money. I have pictures of me putting on one of those flimsy and loose leather jackets that **went out of fashion** more than ten years ago. One day a speeding truck **went past** me and I was covered in mud from top to bottom. I was almost in tears at the moment! How painful!

Mary: Mind you; that suffering didn't **go for anything**. You're such a brilliant engineer with the potential to **go places**. How is it going at work by the way?

Steven: The truth is we encountered some unforeseen issues, so our new system has not **gone into service** yet.

Mary: Hasn't it! That's a bummer. You guys know your stuff and I'm sure you'll figure out some way to get it going. You know; patience and achievement **go hand in hand**. Oh! I feel a bit peckish! I'll make some sandwiches for both of us. What do you say?

Steven: Please **don't go for any trouble**.

Mary: No trouble or anything! I'm making them on my account.

don't go to any trouble: not to endure the effort or bother of doing something.

Oh, you didn't have to go to the trouble of preparing the guest bedroom for me—I could have just slept on the couch!

go bananas: to become very excited because of pleasure, anger, or another emotion.

What makes a person who is normally calm and quiet suddenly go bananas? Phil went bananas when he saw how much his phone bill was!

go blank

1. To unexpectedly forget something.

If your mind goes blank onstage, have a sense of humor about it.

I just went blank and couldn't remember his name for a minute!

2. To no longer show a picture, as of a TV or computer screen.

Maggie clicked SAVE, and her screen went blank.

go broke: to no longer have any money.

The company could go broke if the economy doesn't improve soon.

go down in the world: to lose one's wealth or social status.

They used to live in a big house with lots of servants, but they've come down in the world since then.

go downhill: to decline and grow worse and worse.

He's really starting to go downhill in and out of the hospital.

This part of the town used to be fashionable, but it's starting to go downhill.

go downtown: to go to the central part of a city.

When Mom got dressed to go downtown, we would get excited as we were going to get a treat.

Having to go downtown to pay the parking ticket was a major inconvenience.

go for nothing

1. To happen or be done in vain. Said of an effort that has resulted in failure.
What the teacher said went for nothing because the students were half-asleep and absent-minded.

2. To be sold in exchange for little money.
Hold off on the sale at least for two days or the car will go for nothing.

go from zero to hero: to change oneself from being unsuccessful, unfortunate, or unpopular to being especially successful, positive, fortunate, or popular.

*Frank Loutz had gone from zero to hero in Rauser's book overnight.
In less than three years, Android has gone from zero to hero in the mobile world.*

go hand in hand: (of two things) closely connected.

*A lack of clarity and conflict about values often go hand in hand.
Learning and success go hand in hand. Successful people are great learners.*

go into service: to become functional.

It's only a matter of days and the new elevator will go into service.

go out of style/fashion: to no longer be trendy or fashionable.

*The short square-cut loose Jackets may be said to have quite gone out of Fashion.
A style of art can go out of fashion and then come back into favour fifty years later.*

go past: to pass by or around (someone or something).

*As she went past, there was a gust of strong perfume.
The house shook as the heavy truck went past.*

go places: to progress or find success in some area of one's life.

You have a keen mind and an ability to grasp the larger picture, and you were going places until you got hooked on this international plot mumbo jumbo.

Exercise (3)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. On Monday morning, she went to the school board and got a job in the public school system.
2. The furniture was of the Victorian order, of mahogany, solid and ugly; it would go for at an auction.
3. I made some bad investments last year, and it looks as if I may go this year.
4. Ignorance and poverty, which go hand in with totalitarianism and control, continue to be widespread.
5. The new system is supposed to go into at the end of the next month.
6. Did you go at the exam question or when the interviewer asked you a question?
7. When things started to go, Kyle began looking for another job.
8. Employers would go if such a provision were imposed on them. They would not be able to influence the workers in the example that I have given.
9. Jessica went when she discovered Kelvin had left her chicken wings burning on the barbeque
10. Overnight, the grocer has gone from gombeen to revolutionary

Answers;

1. downtown 2. nothing 3. broke 4. hand 5. service 6. blank 7. downhill 8. bananas 9. bananas 10. zero/ hero

Dialogue (4)

Jason: My shot **went wide** of the net just as time expired, and, with that, we had our first loss of the season.

Tony: I think it's a blessing in disguise as that shot **went viral** and you became the talk of the town.

Jason: Are you pulling my leg? I'm truly **going through a bad patch** and my relationship with my team is **going sour** as they implicitly hold me accountable for the loss. Every time they **go into a huddle**, I feel that I'm the subject of their discussion.

Tony: That's pathetic. You have always **gone the extra mile** to take the team to the next level. They're unappreciative!

Jason: To cap it all, I'm **running short of** money and I have to **go through a** dozen of books for next week's tests.

Tony: Really? You mean you're no longer paid? My Goodness; my eyes has **gone wide** hearing this. I'll **go to extremes** to correct this situation.

Jason: Please Toney; stay out of it. I don't want to give you more headaches. I appreciate your help but don't **go out of your way**.

Tony: Never mind! I'll just pass it on to Mike. He would **go on a rampage** if he heard about this farce. You know; he's the head honcho and he's the one whom I count on to straighten things out. Rest assured that everything will **run like clockwork**. You can take my word for this.

Jason: Thanks Tony; I owe you big! You are saving my career at the very time matters are **going into reverse**.

Tony: At least those idiots will learn how to **go straight**.

go/run short (of something): to begin to not have enough of something.

The city was under siege and began to run short of food.

As long as I have a job my children will never go short of anything.

go sour: to become unpleasant or troubling.

Our investments are going sour because of the high levels of inflation.

Too often relationships go sour or become impoverished through lack of attention.

go the extra mile: to do more than required to do to reach a goal or to help others.

Julia is willing to go the extra miles for us to make a successful deal.

If you go the extra mile at work, you are likely to get noticed and grow professionally.

go to extremes

1. To be excessive in one's efforts to do something.

Let's not go to extremes! We've already spent enough on gifts for the kids.

2. To act in an excessive or overzealous manner.

Few people go to extremes by setting fire in protest.

go viral: to quickly and widely circulate on the Internet, as of a video, picture, or post.

We all want our content marketing to go viral, to max out on likes and shares.

go out of (one's) way (to do): make more effort than is required or expected (to help).

She went out of her way to please him, and he went out of his way to insult her.

go through

1. to experience a difficult or unpleasant situation:

I've been going through a bad patch recently.

2. to examine a collection of things in order to organize them or find something:

Remember to go through the pockets before you put those trousers in the washing machine.

3. to do something in order to practise as a test:

Why don't we go through the whole script once more?

go/run like clockwork: to proceed, progress, or operate predictably and dependably.

The Queen's holiday is arranged to go like clockwork, everything pre-planned to the minute.

go into a huddle: to group together to talk and decide what to do.

The doctors are going into a huddle to reevaluate the operation.

The team went into a huddle at half-time to discuss their tactics.

go on a rampage: to cause great destruction or chaos; to behave aggressively.

Soldiers went on a rampage, pillaging stores and shooting.

The angry gorilla went on a rampage through the mall.

go straight: to begin to respect the law after a period of crime.

The new regulations are meant to aid those who had gone astray go straight once more.

Unless you come to your senses and go straight, a very rough path is waiting for you.

go through a rough patch: to experience a period of trouble, difficulty, or hardship.

The company itself was going through a bad patch and on the verge of collapse.

I failed to show up at your party because I went through a bad patch.

go wild: to become very excited or enthusiastic (about someone or something).

The whole family went wild with excitement at the news of Mike's engagement.

Tony's shot went wide and the tensed crowd went wild.

go into reverse: to move backward or in the opposite direction.

After that incident, the peace process went into reverse.

The downward trend went into reverse and the scores started to creep up again.

go wide

1. Of one's eyes, to open to the greatest extent, typically due to shock or surprise.

My eyes went wide when I got my credit card bill and saw just how much I'm

in debt.

2. To miss a target, especially by being too far to a side. Often used in sports.
Jim had a shot at the goal. The ball just went wide of the post, but was inside the subsidiary limit, which gave us the lead.

Exercise (4)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. There's no surefire way to make a given video go, even if it features a celebrity.
2. In order to fight with this sleepiness, he even went to, stabbing his thigh with a stabber every time when he began to be sleepy.
3. Lucy wanted her family to know that her marriage was going through a bad
4. When the movie came out the critics went, hailing Tarantino as the golden boy of the 1990s.
5. The trend towards home ownership has gone into
6. Unfortunately for her the box was empty. She giggled, her hand slamming to cover her mouth as her eyes went
7. The judges went into a for more than half an hour to decide the winner.
8. The charity event was well organized and ran like
9. Have a good spending plan so that you don't run of money at the end of the month.
10. Her whole attitude to life went as a result of that experience.

Answers;

1. viral 2. extremes 3. patch 4. wild 5. reverse 6. wide 7. huddle 8. clockwork 9. short 10. sour

Dialogue (5)

Mark: Here we go again! They're digging up the road — it's the third time this year.

Jackie: Close the window for heaven's sake. I'm literally **going deaf** because of all these horns.

Mark: I'm going **go blind** because of these strong sunrays. My glasses are somewhere behind the front seat. Do me a favor and get them for me.

Jackie: Glasses! Glasses! **Here we go**; I've found them. Speaking of glasses; I heard that glass prices are **going sky-high**. We had better hurry and place the glass order for our new construction project.

Mark: No need to panic! We're not **going the distance** our own because I've taken all the necessary precaution. To avoid the struggle, I transformed the project into a joint venture so that we can move ahead with the aid of a powerful partner.

Jackie: Well done! Taking this chance by ourselves is definitely irrational. We'll end up out of business if something **goes wrong**. It takes two hands to tango.

Mark: If you want to know who is our new partner, just **go online** and type L-Construction.

Jackie: L-Construction; **here we go**! Wow it's one of the leading companies in this sector. Now I can **go on holiday** with a clear conscience.

Mark: Speaking of holidays; I'm **going overseas** on a business trip to Australia. I have to sign the contract over there. I'll **go to extremes** to make this project a success.

Jackie: To Australia! Aha; I'm afraid you're **going on a date** once more!

Mark: **Here we go again**! Not only you don't forget but you don't forgive either. Look at my head I'm **going bald and grey** simultaneously. Who will go on a date with me?

Jackie: Look; if you step out of line this time; things won't **go smoothly** anymore. I'm warning you in advance;

go sky-high: to experience a significant increase.

In those days, before furs went up sky high, that coat was valued at only ten thousand dollars.

The price of oil went sky-high when the war broke out.

go the distance: to persist with some activity or goal until its completion.

Helen went the distance in high school and it paid off when she earned a scholarship to college.

Do you think Michael has the stamina to go the distance?

go to the limit: to do as much as possible; to get as much as possible.

Please no more juice for me! I've gone to the limit.

We have players with problems but to compete, you have to go to the limit.

here we go

1. An expression used when something is about to begin or arrive.

Everybody is ready; I suppose! Right, here we go, the game's starting.

2. Said when something or someone has been found or identified.

I know I read it somewhere... Here we go! It's at the bottom of page 78.

here we go again: used when you are annoyed that something starts to happen again.

A; "Did you clean the dishes?" B; "Here we go again! I said I can't do that without gloves."

Oh, here we go again! Claude's just asked to borrow some more money from me.

go wrong

1. to make a mistake or a bad decision:

If you read the instructions, you'll see where you went wrong.

2. If a situation or a machine goes wrong, there are problems or there is a bad result:

Don't hesitate to get in touch if something goes wrong.

The project went wrong when the staff failed to follow through.

go on holiday/ a vacation: experiencing a time away from home, school, or business usually in order to relax or travel.

I must get this paperwork sorted before I go on holiday next week.

go blind/ deaf: to become unable to see/hear.

Many sufferers go blind by the age of 30 or 40 because of damage to the retina.

The great composer Beethoven gradually went deaf, but was still able to create incredible music.

go bald: to become bald, or have hair fall out.

He started going bald at twenty, and was completely bald by forty.

go/turn grey: having hair that has become grey or white, usually because of age:

The idea of going grey doesn't bother me, but I'd hate to go bald.

He started to go/turn grey in his mid-forties.

go online:

To fill the void, she would go online and chat with her friends back home.

I decided to fly back the next morning. So I quickly went online to check the flight situation.

go/run smoothly: to work well, to develop without any problems, to go as planned.

We need someone really efficient who can organize the office and make it run smoothly.

Everything was going smoothly until suddenly disaster struck.

go on a date: to meet someone socially who you are (or may become) romantically involved with.

She met Eon briefly at work, and in a few weeks they went out on a date.

go abroad/overseas: to go to a foreign country.

There are opportunities to go overseas, but competition is tremendous, with five or six applicants for every job.

People often simply abandon their pets when they go abroad.

Exercise (5)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Of those with internet current accounts, two-thirds go at least once a week to check their finances,
2. Later, Ross finds out Rachel is going on a with Mark and spies on them through Chandler"s peep-hole."
3. When Uncle Bill went , he left me his watch as a souvenir.
4. The market prices were going However, his prices were about twenty per cent lower than other stores.
5. There were only three days now before the show and things were not going
6. He's going on for the third time this year never mind that he has hardly any money left
7. Often men went, their teeth rotted and fell out, and some died.
8. You went when you were eighteen months old, and so never learned how to speak.
9. He has a theory that wearing hats makes men go
10. And what about our attitudes to beauty: will you go or would you rather dye?

Answers;

1. online 2. date 3. abroad 4. sky-high 5. smoothly 6. holiday 7. blind 8. deaf 9. bald 10. grey

Make; Collocations and Phrases

Dialogue (1)

Greg: You know what? I can't believe things have turned out this bad, but Mike **made his bed** and now he must **lie in it**.

Jim: Well! I don't go along with you on this - he was broke and all he wanted was to **make a comeback** in the market.

Greg; Don't get me wrong but Mike shouldn't have **made a scene** in the store! He just kept scaring away his customers. No wonder he's out of business right now!

Jim; His arrogance is the heart of the problem! He could have **made history** if he had taken advantage of that opportunity. But it's no use crying over spilled milk! Currently, he's selling chewing gums just to **make both ends meet!** Unbelievable!

Greg; The other day he **made me feel small** in front of my partners when he turned down my offer to employ him in our company.

Jim; Well! Don't **make a case out of nothing!** I appreciate your kindness but complaining **makes me sick**. Honestly; our acts will **make my father turn over in his grave!** Let's drop the subject. Shall we?

Greg; You're right! He was proud of all of us! The thought of going against our dad's will **makes my blood run cold**. He could **make a fortune** out of selling chocolate bars despite his illness that was **making his life a misery**.

Jim; Never mind! Tomorrow morning I'm gonna **make my way to** the lawyer to put a stop to this farce. Anyway, I'm totally exhausted after this long day. Can I take a rest somewhere here?

Greg; Sure! **Make yourself at home**.

make (one's) bed and (one) has to lie in it: one must endure the unpleasant situation that they have created.

I have no mercy on Steven after having sold everyone out on his way to the top. Obviously, he made his bed, and now he has to lie in it.

make a comeback: to overcome a deficit in a sport, game, election, or other contest.

Contrary to all expectations, the candidate appears to be making an incredible comeback.

make a scene: to create a loud, typically angry disturbance or display in public, such that it draws attention to those involved.

Come on guys! Grow up a little for heaven's sake! You don't have to make a scene with your endless fighting wherever we go.

make history: to do something historically significant; to do something important that will be remembered and recorded for a long time.

It's a golden opportunity for them to make history as the only team to come back in less than half an hour.

make (both) ends meet: to earn just enough money to pay one's bills.

Phil has been leading a tough life. And to make both ends meet, he had to pick up a second job as a plumber.

make (one) feel small: to make one feel insignificant, unimportant, or unintelligent.

The coach had a nasty habit of making his players feel very small if they made a mistake.

Make (one) sick: to disgust one.

How dare you see them behind my back? You make me sick!

make (one) turn over in (one's) grave: Figuratively, to upset someone who is dead and buried.

The way you run this business would make your mother turn over in her grave.

make (one's) blood run cold: to cause one to feel frightened or unnerved.

The sight of the dead thief lying on the floor made our blood run cold.

make (one's) fortune(s): to earn or accumulate one's wealth.

The mobile phone market is yet to be saturated with entrepreneurs who are eager to make fortunes.

make (one's) life a misery: to cause a lot of problems, pressure, or stress (for one), perhaps by engaging in malicious or mean-spirited treatment (of one).

Back then, bullies made her life a misery and she dropped out of school eventually.

make (one's) move: to take a decisive action intended to achieve one's goal or start the process of achieving it.

Greg ended up out of business as he jumped the gun and made his move too early.

make (one's) way: to travel or proceed in an intended direction or to a certain place.

Apparently, he had made his own way to some nameless doctor of dubious competency.

make oneself at home: to make oneself comfortable as if one were in one's own home.

Is that your sweater he's wearing? He really makes himself at home when he stays over, huh?

make something out of nothing

1. *Lit.* to create something of value from nearly worthless parts.

George is such a handy boy! He can make an incredible piece of art out of junk/nothing.

2. *Fig.* to make an issue of something of little importance.

You have no evidence, man! You're making a case out of nothing.

Exercise (1)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. After losing all his money in gambling, Sam had to sleep in the open. Clearly, he made
2. Short skirts were out of fashion for many years, but now they're making a
3. "The dog won't touch you, " she said , "unless you make a towards me."
4. Jenny is such a bossy and angry manager! She makes a if any of her staff makes a simple mistake!
5. I felt she was trying to make me because that's the only way she knew to make herself feel better.
6. Margaret Thatcher made when she became the first female British prime minister.
7. Those loud neighbors are making! I think it's time to make them pay for it.
8. You'll never make a if you're a teacher, but you'll always have a job.
9. The thought of losing ten thousand dollars in a minute makes
10. That guy is a real chef! He can make tasty dishes some vegetables.

Answers;

1. *his bed and must lie in it* 2. *comeback* 3. *move* 4. *scene* 5. *feel small* 6. *history* 7. *my life a misery* 8. *fortune* 9. *me sick/ my blood runs cold* 10. *out of*

Dialogue (2)

Charles: I couldn't wait to get out of school, and I **made a dash** for the door as soon as the bell rang.

Jenny: (his mother): Why is that? What's **making you rush** like that?

Charles: Actually, I thought Mary would come back home and find out that I had borrowed her headphones. You know in such cases speed **makes a difference**.

Jenny: Aha! Let me **make a guess** then – No; I'm pretty sure; you are the one who took your dad's perfume! Aren't you? I'm gonna **make a monkey** out of you!

Charles: Slow down mom! Don't **make a dram** out of it! I'm gonna reimburse you! I promise!

Jenny: Well! I wonder when you will use your head and act properly!

Charles: Alright! I have got a good news for you! I've decided to **make a habit of** getting up early and only **make friends** with the good boys! I've also decided to get a job after school to **make a quick buck**!

Jenny: Well! I don't know why I find it difficult to believe you! Anyway, the candy we served last night really **made a hit with** the guests. Put on your coat and go and bring more of it! I always try to cut costs but I can't help it! These parties are literally **making a hole in** pocket!

Charles: Never mind mum! I'm gonna **make a go of** my new plan and give you a hand!

Jenny: Are you? I'm afraid you will **make a laughingstock** of me in front of the entire world – All I want you to do is to take responsibility! I really want you to understand that **making a go of** your studies is far more important than **making a living** right now! I mean your dad is taking care of you.

Charles: Mom! Look at Billy! He's **made a face** at me!

Jenny: You won't let me **make my point**. Will you? Get lost you two!!

make a point: to argue or promote an idea.

I suppose the people who wrote that stuff on the wall were trying to make a point, but they mainly made a mess.

make a dash/bolt for (someone or something): to run suddenly and at high speed toward someone or something.

Our taxi was late picking us up, so I'm going to have to make a dash for it when we get to the train station.

make a difference: to have an impact, especially in a positive way.

Graduates, you can make a difference in this world. You can reshape the future!

make a drama/ a federal case out of (something): to exaggerate or put too much focus on a minor issue and make it seem like a major one.

Let's not make a federal case out of that incident. It was really just a minor setback.

make a face/ faces (at someone): to show a funny or distorted expression to someone in ridicule.

The teacher sent Jane to the principal for making a face in class.

make a quick/fast buck: to make money quickly and/or without effort, often through dishonest, unscrupulous, or ethically dubious means.

Making a fast buck selling this junk won't help you go a long way! To win people, you've got to leave your mark.

Make a fool/ a monkey/ an ass out of (someone): to do something that makes someone or oneself seem stupid or ridiculous.

Don't let him make a fool of you like that—say something back!

make a friend/friends: to form a friendship with someone.

With my laidback attitude, I have never found it difficult to make friends.

make a go of (something): to attempt to achieve success with something, often a relationship or career, through one's best effort.

If she shows real devotion to cooking, it is very likely that she will make a go of it as a profession.

make a guess: to make a prediction, estimate, or conjecture; to guess.

You won't be penalized for making a guess, so be sure not to leave any questions unanswered.

make a habit of (doing something): to follow a routine in which one does something habitually.

I don't like to make a habit of staying late, but tonight is an exception.

make a hit with someone: to please someone; to impress someone.

Her presentation made a hit with the audience.

make a hole in (something): to take, use up, or deplete a large amount of money available in something, such as a budget, one's wallet, etc.

The cost of repairing the car is really going to make a hole in our savings.

make a laughingstock of (oneself or something) - make (oneself or something) a laughingstock: to make oneself a source of ridicule or laughter by doing silly things.

Laura made herself a laughingstock by arriving at the fast-food restaurant in full evening dress.

make a living: to earn enough money in order to support oneself financially.

If you quit your job at the hospital, how on earth will you make a living?

Exercise (2)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Someone should put a stop to Martin's misbehavior! He keeps making funny at strangers.
2. I suppose the people who wrote that stuff on the wall were trying to make a, we shouldn't take it lightly!
3. Most of these guys are in their late twenties and nobody has taught them yet how to make
4. Unless you prepare well for the speech, you can make a of yourself!
5. Steve told Jessie that he was ready to make a of their marriage.
6. You really made a big with my friends—they can't stop gushing about you.
7. He made a of ignoring me whenever his friends were around.
8. Let me make a! Charley is the one who sent the flowers. Isn't he?
9. The deal may not matter to you, but it makes a world of to me.
10. Brian is getting more and more edgy. He always makes such a out of everything.

Answers;

1. *faces* 2. *point* 3. *a living* 4. *laughingstock/fool* 5. *go* 6. *hit* 7. *habit* 8. *guess* 9. *difference* 10. *drama*

Dialogue (3)

Bill: I have no intentions to **make a living out of my writing** or anything, but I love doing it and the bit of extra income it provides is certainly appreciated.

Clare: Why not? Keep up at it and you are bound to **made a hit** with one of your stories one day!

Bill: Yeah! Sometimes I underestimate my talent to **make a mark!** I wish I could dedicate myself to writing books but I don't want to **made a mess of** my career as an engineer.

Clare: It's all about time management my darling – plan your time in advance! In this way you can easily strike a balance between the two of them. That's it! You're just **making a mountain out of a molehill!**

Bill: Did you **make this pizza** yourself? So tasty! I can't help but eat more! I'm definitely going to **make a pig out of myself** unless you take it away.

Clare: Enjoy! By the way! Linda will be **making a pitch** for her new product idea at the meeting today. Are you going to attend it?

Bill: **Don't make me laugh!** Don't you remember how she **made a song and dance about** my pay raise? I'm definitely out of this. She's such a blabbermouth! I told her over and over again that **still tongues make wise heads** but she took no notice of that.

Clare: Are you still holding a grudge? I thought this opportunity can **make a wide stride in** resolving your issues.

Bill: Never mind Linda! Did you hear what happened two days ago? Wilson was fired after he began **making advances** at his secretary.

Clare: What? That serves him right then! I don't know why the owner was **making allowance** for his misconduct all that time? Why was he willing to **make that exception** only for Wilson?

Bill: Wilson is actually his brother in law. That's it! OK! I've to make a dash right now as I **made an appointment** with the doctor for late today.

Clare: Before you leave – can you take this package along for Lisa?

Bill: But Lisa is on a visit to her parents in London!

Clare: Who is looking after the kids then?

Bill: Yours truly?

Clare: Wow! That's wonderful! As they say; **a good Jack makes a good Jill!**

make a living out of (doing) (something): to earn enough money from something or some pursuit that one is able to support oneself on that alone.
I never thought I'd make a living out of network marketing, but it's actually proven to be very lucrative.

make a mark: to do something that makes one famous or successful; to do something that is very important or meaningful.
Pursuing a career in alternative energy is a stepping stone for you to be able to make a mark in the world with a groundbreaking discovery.

make a mess (out) of (something): to handle something in a way that causes it to be disordered, damaged, or ruined.
Make sure you put the files away after you get done. The kids may rifle through them and make a mess of the whole thing.

make a mountain out of a molehill: to exaggerate or put too much focus on a minor issue and make it seem like a major one.
We're not back to square one yet! This is a minor setback. Please, Mike! Don't make a mountain out of a molehill.

make a pig of (oneself): to eat too much food in one sitting or to eat sloppily.
Mind your manners everyone! Don't make pigs of yourselves in front of the guests.

make a pitch: to make a presentation to influence others to support, purchase, or agree to something.
Sarah has made a pitch for you to join the band! It's only a matter of a few days and you make the deal.

make a song and dance about (something): to exaggerate or build up the importance of something more than necessary. Usually used in the negative.
The celebrities just had a little kiss, but the media is making a song and dance about it.

make a wide stride: to make great and rapid progress or advancement.

After the urgent measures we took recently, I can safely say that we've made a wide stride in getting the company back on its feet, but we still have a long road ahead.

make advances: to approach someone in a flirtatious, amorous, or sexual manner; to try or begin to seduce someone.

Those men making advances every time I go out are giving me the creeps.

make allowance(s) for (someone or something): to be forgiving or accepting of someone or something due to special circumstances.

The director is really considerate and empathetic. He made allowances for Jake's absence from the department after his mother's sudden death.

make an appointment (with someone): to schedule a meeting with someone.

Michael is right! The mayor wouldn't see me unless I made an appointment.

make an exception: to allow someone or something to forego or bypass a usual rule, law, or standard. Often followed by "for (someone)."

We have to be firm with our rules for the fans—if we keep making exceptions like this, they will make a mess of the stadium.

a good Jack makes a good Jill: if a husband treats his wife well, she will treat him well in return.

Albert has no issues doing the dishes as this gives his wife much needed time to relax. As they say; a good Jack makes a good Jill.

a still tongue makes a wise head: it is much wiser to speak only when it is appropriate or after one has thought carefully about what one wants or needs to say.

Can't you refrain from discussing your personal affairs so publically?

Remember, a still tongue makes a wise head.

Don't make me laugh!: that is a stupid suggestion!

A: "Get ready, guys! Steven is treating us to dinner!"

B: "Don't make me laugh—he doesn't have a penny in his pocket!"

Exercise (3)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. If you want to see the minister, you'll have to make an first.
2. I'm taking this into account! My calculations make for two paid employees.
3. Tomorrow is holiday, I'll make an and let you stay up as late as you want.
4. You should put the brakes on your tongues already! It's time to learn that
5. The clever detective has been making a toward absolute control of the case.
6. Tony is a genius! He's only been here four days but he's already made his
7. We had better slow down everyone! We're literally making of ourselves.
8. He shouldn't have trusted the fortuneteller! He had made a of his life!
9. You've just got a cold so stop making a You're not going to die from it!
10. My boss thought I was making but I was just interested in the project.

Answers;

1. *appointment* 2. *allowance* 3. *exception* 4. *still tongues make wise heads*
5. *wide stride* 6. *mark* 7. *pigs* 8. *mess* 9. *mountain out of a molehill* 10. *advances*

Dialogue (4)

Jack: You shouldn't have **made a big thing of** Carl's comments! He's a pushover – and as you know **empty vessels make (the) most noise**.

Steven: Yeah, he's such a jerk! He just **made my blood boil** when he said he would sell the company!

Jack: Actually, this time he isn't **making a fuss** or anything! He's truly in a dire need of money, but I finally managed to **make him see sense**, and he agreed not to sell his shares just yet.

Steven: We've been trying to **make our way** in this business for years, and as it is just starting to work out. Obviously; his irresponsible acts can **make a mess of** everything!

Jack: Speaking of mess. Did you see Kathy's new car? It's stunning! It just **made my jaw drop**!

Steven: It's a clever attempt by her husband to **make it right** after being caught in the act of **making advances** to the waitress.

Jack: Do you think she can get over that trauma by buying stuff?

Steven: Without **making a clean sweep of** their old stuff, she'll always have her legitimate doubts.

Jack: Oh! Before it slips my mind, did you **make a decision** about selling the old furniture? If yes, I will **make a date** with a local broker to come around and collect them.

Steven: Not before we **make a clean sweep of** the whole departments! There are a lot of outdated computers that need to be replaced!

Jack: Why don't we **make a deal** with an IT company to take care of this stuff? We could save ourselves lots of time, effort and money!

Steven: Good idea! **Make this move** right away!

Jack: How about the elections? I heard your party **made a clean sweep**!

Steven: Sure! We're determined to teach those who are **making noises** a lesson once more.

Jack: Yeah! Let's **make a move** then!

empty vessels make (the) most noise: foolish, unwise, or stupid people are the most talkative.

No wonder those losers are gossiping about us day and night—empty vessels make the most noise.

make (one) mad/make (one's) blood boil: to make one very angry, irritated, or vexed.

The fact that he was deceiving us for years just makes my blood boil.

make (one) see sense/ reason: (make somebody) begin to act and think more reasonably than before.

Don't waste your breath – your dad won't stick with the diet! You can't make him see sense about that after losing trust in his doctors.

make (one's) way in (something): to find independent success in something or some profession.

It's absolutely pleasing for you as a teacher to see your students making their way in the world.

make (someone's) jaw drop: to cause someone to pause in astonishment, awe, or disbelief, especially with their mouth left open.

It made my parents' jaw drop to hear that I was getting married very soon!

make (something) right: to amend or correct something; to make something more accurate or fair or return it to its desired position or status.

When it became apparent that the two teams were really lopsided, the gym teacher shuffled some kids around to make it right.

make a (big) thing (out) of (something): to exaggerate or put too much focus on a minor issue and make it seem like a major one.

It's only a routine check-up! Why on earth are you shaking? You're making a big a thing out of nothing.

make a clean sweep:

1. to initiate large-scale removal of unwanted people or objects, especially as a means of effecting or expediting change.

To implement his plans, the board of directors is making a clean sweep of all upper management.

The attic is such a mess. We need to make a clean sweep and throw all this old junk out!

2. to achieve victory easily and by a large margin.

My team made a clean sweep at the national mathematics competition.

make a date: to arrange with someone to meet at a particular date and time.

A: "I'd love to have your say about putting off some deadlines." B: "Sure, let's make a date to meet sometime in the next week or so."

make a deal (with one): to successfully achieve or negotiate an agreement.

Look, I simply can't afford to pay that much, so let's make a deal, shall we?

make a decision: to decide; to choose something after careful and thoughtful thinking.

It's no easy matter to make decisions regarding the future of the nation.

make a fuss over (someone or something): to give someone or something an inordinate amount of attention, affection, or praise.

Why are you making such a fuss over the new system? How much different could it be?

Make (a) noise: to complain or make trouble.

Human rights activists are making a lot of noise about the new legislation.

Exercise (4)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. To take full control over the country, Soviet communists wanted to make the discredited old order.
2. I'm so frustrated! I lost everything and none of my friends made
3. It is a great opportunity to make for the campaign.
4. After two weeks of hard bargaining, both sides are ready to make
5. I don't know why you thought it would be so funny to throw eggs at Mrs. Murphy's house. She's only been nice to you. You need to march yourself over there and make it
6. Your performance was outstanding! It just made my
7. Don't make of paying the bill! It's your turn to pay next time. OK?
8. Let's make to have coffee. I need to pick your brain about an important issue.
9. It took the committee several months of extensive research to make a
10. Their father left half a million for each of them to make

Answers;

1. a clean sweep of 2. a move 3. a noise 4. a deal 5. right 6. jaw drop 7. a big thing 8. a date 9. decision 10. their own way in the world

Dialogue (5)

Thomas: Look at these colors! Are you **making a play** for someone, dude?

Mike: Why do you always get me wrong! I chose such loud, clashing colors because I want the exhibition to really **make a statement** about the chaos of commercialism.

Thomas: You're **making outstanding efforts** man! How about the opening ceremony of the exhibition? Make sure you impress everyone; **a good beginning makes a good ending**.

Mike: You're right! What really matters is to **make my voice heard** and this exhibition is once in a lifetime chance. You know lots of journalists, activists and politicians are coming over.

Thomas: Then, undoubtedly we're going to **make a score**! Wow; I'm so excited already!

Mike: Keep in mind that this is your chance to **make a stand** against racism as well! **Make people's voice heard** – they count on you.

Thomas: Don't make the mistake of inviting the members of the city council – they will **make a nonsense of** the event. They won't take any criticism; you know they are always on the defensive.

Mike: Yeah! They'll **make inflation the scapegoat for** their failures as usual! When it comes to assuming responsibility, those guys are very skillful at **making themselves scarce**. What a shame! It time they **made themselves useful** just for once!

Thomas: Are we going to serve cake or burgers? The thought of food is clearly **making my mouth water**.

Mike: What's **making my mouth water** is the thought of attracting attention to our mission! All I care about is to **make my position clear**.

Thomas: You have to bear in mind that the relentless campaigns that are waiting for us will **make the last attacks seem like a picnic**.

Mike: Put your mind at ease! I took that into account. The other day I came across one of those jerks and all he said that he was mistaken in his previous comments and judgments and that he was **delighted to make my acquaintance** at last. On top of that, he offered to support us in this event. Go figure!

Thomas: I'm speechless!

make a play (for someone): to attempt to attract the romantic interest of someone.

At last Thomas asked me out for a coffee! I never thought he'd make a play

make a score: to achieve or obtain something very valuable.

One of my hobbies is antique collecting - I always look to make a score whenever I visit a garage sale, flea market, or anywhere else someone might unwittingly sell something rare.

make a stand: to publicly assert one's opinion or defense of or opposition to something.

Clare decided to make a stand for what she knew was right although her mother warned her not to speak up!

make a statement: to create or communicate a certain kind of impression or idea.

I will make a statement about you to my cousin before you apply for the job. The chief is going to make a statement about the incident in the early evening.

make an effort/efforts (to do something): to work hard to achieve something.

You don't have to beat yourself up in any way! You made an effort and you can have a clean conscience.

a good beginning makes a good ending: being well-prepared and focused at the start of something often leads to success.

I expect you everyone to do your best to make the inauguration a success! As they say a good beginning makes a good ending.

delighted to make your acquaintance: I'm very happy to meet you.

A: "You must be Jenny. It's so nice to meet you." B: "Delighted to make your acquaintance."

make (a) nonsense of (something): to treat something serious or important in a silly or ridiculous manner; to make a mockery of something.

You're just making a nonsense of this issue! You must know that if we're screwed this time, we have no other chance to stand on our feet once more!

make (one) the scapegoat (for something): to wrongly attribute all of the blame for some negative situation or outcome to one particular person.

As long as you're trying to make someone the scapegoat for this confusion, it's unlikely to find a way out!

make (one's) mouth water

1. To cause one to salivate or feel hungry.

Just the thought of having dinner at my mother's house makes my mouth water.

2. By extension, to cause one to feel happy or excited, usually with anticipation.

A long vacation like that in the mountains is enough to make anyone's mouth water!

make someone's position clear: to clarify where someone stands on an issue.

Please make your position clear before we make a move. I can't stand your nagging all the way.

make (oneself) heard: to have one's opinion, beliefs, or desires understood or validated.

If you have a load of cash at your disposal or you'll make yourself heard easily in this country. And just the reverse is true.

make (oneself) scarce: to leave, hide typically to avoid something.

Why is it that when there are assignments to do, the kids somehow make themselves scarce?

make (oneself) useful: to do something that is helpful or of assistance to others.

Seeing my mother having her hands full, I decided to make myself useful and wash the dishes.

make (something) seem like a picnic: to make something else that is normally very difficult or negative seem easy, simple, or pleasant by comparison.

If we don't act firmly, the crisis waiting for us will make the last recession seem like a picnic.

Exercise 5

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. She is your sister after all! I wish you'd make to get on with her.
2. A, "I'm your new next-door neighbor!" B"
.....".
3. Voting is the only real way the average citizen is able to make
..... .
4. Just the thought of having a big seafood dinner tonight makes
..... .
5. Unless you change this this backward mentality, you're unlikely to make a
..... in your life.
6. To avoid confusion, you have to be sure to make, both in
person and in writing.
7. make —get your guests a drink.
8. If we don't act now, the financial crisis waiting for us will make the last
recession
9. The government was determined to make against all forms of
terrorism.
10. The fighting made the peace pledges made last week.

Answers;

1. *an effort* 2. *delighted to make your acquaintance* 3. *their voice heard* 4. *my mouth water* 5. *score* 6. *your position clear* 7. *yourself useful* 8. *seem like a picnic* 9. *a stand* 10. *a nonsense of*

Dialogue (6)

Jessie: Paul is a true hero! The moment he saw the toddler teetering on the edge of the wall, he **made a dive** and caught him. To **make a long story short**, he literally saved the baby's life!

Mary: Impressive! This guy is gonna **make a name** as a hero! The last time I saw him was when he **made an appearance** at my cousin's party!

Jessie: Yeah! I haven't **made contact with** him since that party as well.

Mary: Speaking of my cousin, he **made me an offer** of 5000 to hire my car for two months. Should I accept that or not? What do you say?

Jessie: It's up to you – you're cousins after all! I say we **make arrangements** for a picnic on the weekend? If you're in, I'm going to **make a reservation** at the restaurant off the lake.

Mary: Yeah fine! But we're having the faulty equipment repaired! Although I'm of the opinion that we replace them and **make a fresh start with** new tools, my sister insists on keeping them! That's a bummer. Isn't it?

Jessie: Well; she could be trying to cut costs – obviously things are not going as smoothly as we wish them to be.

Mary: I'm afraid just the contrary is true! We may end up paying twice as much. I tried to **make a point that** she was not right but she wouldn't take any notice.

Jessie: She could be **making a mistake** as this is the first time she **makes contact with** technical matters. Alright! I'll **make myself available** tonight and pay her a visit. I hope I can talk her round!

Mary: Well! You're brilliant at **making fair weather**! I bet your efforts will make a difference.

Jessie: What an ungrateful girl! Anyway you two should **make amends for** all the times you've been letting each other down. Your sister is so kindhearted – don't go hard on her. Okay!

make a dive (for someone or something): to quickly and suddenly dive in some direction in an effort to catch or block someone or something.

The goalkeeper made a dive for the ball, but it slipped through his hands and went into the net.

make a fresh start: to have a chance to begin something anew.

We're all excited to make a fresh start with the new boss.

make a long story short: to skip boring or unnecessary details; to get to the point.

I got to know her at a work function two years ago, and, to make a long story short, we're getting married very soon.

make a mistake: to do something incorrectly; to make an error of some kind.

You've made a mistake! Well then - just own up to it and keep going!

make a name (for oneself): to become well-known in a particular field or area;

Without a lot of talent and hard work you're unlikely to make a name in this town this quick.

make a point: to state or demonstrate something of particular importance.

To make a point about the need for education, she showed how African boys are starving as a result of not receiving their fair share of it.

make a reservation/ reservations: to reserve a seat, as in an airplane, restaurant, or theater in advance; to reserve a room, as in a hotel in advance.

The restaurant gets really busy over the weekend, so we'll need to make a reservation at least two days ahead.

make amends: to provide restitution or attempt to reconcile or resolve the situation after a wrong one has done.

A flower can do wonders when it comes to making amends with a partner. I'm doing my best to make amends for your losses.

make an appearance: to visit or appear at some place or event for a brief amount of time, especially as a courtesy or for the sake of politeness.

You don't have to spend the evening over there – just make an appearance and come back.

make an offer: to present, proffer, or propose something (to someone), especially an amount of money.

Are you out of your mind? Your father made you an offer of a \$200,000-per-year salary and still you're not satisfied!

make arrangements: to organize, plan, or prepare.

Let's make some arrangements for my mother. She'll be arriving in a few hours.

make (someone or something) available to (one): to allow one to avail of something or the services of someone else.

Rest assured that we're making all of our resources available to you while you work on this.

make contact with (someone or something)

1. To communicate with someone.

Let's make contact with Grandma. We have been out of touch since the storm hit!

2. To touch someone or something or engage with an unknown entity for the first time.

Be careful not to make contact with that plant—it's poison ivy.

The government strictly forbids anyone from making contact with the indigenous tribe.

make fair weather: to flatter.

Quit making fair weather! I want you to get truthful and find out how we can handle this issue.

Exercise 6

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. I don't trust Mark at all—he's always making, rather than being truthful.
2. Apologizing to him is the least you can do to make
3. I decided to get back to school and make a
4. If you're willing to sell the phone, I'm the first to make an
5. Don't go hard on yourself! We all make
6. It's ridiculous to make with him after all those years just because he got rich!
7. This is over my head! I've never made with physics.
8. I'll make a for three people if there are available tables.
9. It's your turn to make for the event. I'll be out of town for a few days.
10. With perseverance and patience you're bound to make a for yourself in your field.

Answers;

- 1. fair weather 2. amends 3. fresh start 4. offer 5. mistakes 6. contact 7. contact 8. reservation 9. arrangements 10. name*

Dialogue (7)

James: Sarah's father **made little of** her for her entire childhood, but it only gave her the resolve to do great things.

Kathy: Maybe that attitude of the father was a blessing in disguise for the daughter. After all she **made the most of** herself and **made the grade** in her studies.

James: Do those tough parents feel guilty? I'm having hard time **making sense of** this!

Kathy: Unless they **make peace with** themselves, they are unlikely to **make amends for** others. As they say; you can't get blood out of a stone.

James: Yeah; right! But we have to bear in mind that parents always have their legitimate fears. My parents, for instance, used to **make mincemeat of** me if I came back home late at night. That made me mad at that time but as I grew up, I started to appreciate their fears.

Kathy: Typical! Same goes for me! By the way! I heard you would take up drama instead of novel – why is that?

James: Probably! I haven't **made up my mind** yet! I just want to **make much of** my time abroad and **make the best of** this scholarship.

Kathy: Unfortunately, most students don't **make use of** such opportunities! All they care about is **making way on** their studies so that they can graduate very soon! They should learn the language, the culture and make more friends.

James: I hope I can **make a good impression** during my presentation, or the committee won't **make overtures** on my topic.

Kathy: Put your best food forward! And I'll make room for the desert!

make little of (someone or something): to criticize, deprecate, or belittle someone or something.

What hurts is the rest of the team makes little of my contribution.

make mincemeat (out) of (someone or something): to decisively and severely punish or defeat someone.

Unless you practice well for the match, your opponent will make mincemeat out of you.

make much of (someone or something): to emphasize the importance of or devote much attention to someone or something.

They've made much of this new coach coming in. I just hope he measures up.

make overtures: to express a willingness, openness, or eagerness to pursue something, such as a relationship or an intended course of action.

Mike made overtures about fixing the leak but I hope he will keep his word.

make (one's) peace with (someone or something): to reconcile with or accept something that previously was a source of stress, conflict, etc.

You need to make your peace with idea of failure in order to tap into your creative potential.

make room (for someone or something): to clear a certain amount of space to allow for someone or something else to fit.

Make room when a passenger boards who is pregnant, elderly, or infirm during rush hours.

How on earth can I make room for all this junk in the garage? It's already packed?

Just take a bite to get by and be sure to make room for your dinner later.

make sense (out) of (something): to interpret something in a way that one can understand or that reveals some purpose, reason, etc.

Can you make sense out of these comments? I think even the person who wrote them had no clue!

make the grade: to satisfy a certain standard; to succeed.

Although Jason started from scratch, he was able to make the grade as a contractor and made a fortune.

make the most of (oneself): to try as hard as one can to be successful; to realize all of one's potential.

Had you made the most of yourself, you could have graduated years ago.

make the most of (something): to use to the greatest advantage.

My family used to make the most of the rainwater. They drank it and watered their cattle.

make up (one's) mind: to make a final decision after consideration; to become convinced of a particular course of action.

I'm not sure what time I will make a move—I'm still making my mind up. After that accident, I made up my mind that I would quit drinking once and for all.

make use of (someone or something): to utilize someone or something to suit a particular need or purpose.

If you make good use of this information, you can easily separate yourself from the crowd.

make way: 1. to move aside so that others/something can pass. 2. To make progress.

Make way, everyone. The prime minister is coming through.

Have you made way on your research at all? As far as I remember you were stuck on the last chapter.

make an impression: to have or create a strong impact on someone, whether good or bad (usually specified by an adjective before "impression.")

It's clear that your speech made a strong impression on the community and they will take your recommendations seriously.

Exercise 7

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. You really ought to make the opportunity, because you won't get a second chance.
2. The very best thing you can do for the whole world is to make yourself.
3. They have razed those buildings to make way for the new highway.
4. Skilled readers make context and prediction.
5. Some government-controlled press and television have been making the latest setback.
6. You shouldn't keep chopping and changing like this; you'd better make right now!
7. You'll have to play better than that if you really want to make
8. Determination and resilience are two the most important qualities to make as an athlete.
9. A streetlight beside an elementary school shed just enough light to let me make the map.
10. The board made on the agenda for supporters of the team to air their views in a public session Friday.

Answers;

- 1. the most/use/the best of 2. the most of 3. use of 4. little of 5. Little of 6. up your mind 7. an impression 8. the grade 9. sense out of 10. room*

Dialogue (8)

Sarah: My neighbors surprised me with homemade chocolate chip cookies; and it really **made my day**.

Clare: They must have killed you with their kindness.

Sarah: Without a doubt! See! There's no point in **making trouble**. I've learned it the hard way.

Clare: I've **made it a rule** for myself not to take people at face value. You could have **made matters worse** unless you **made peace** with them at the last moment.

Sarah: I also observed that keeping people at a distance pays dividends when it comes to healthy relations. **Making free with** everyone is a perfect recipe for inconveniences and headache.

Clare: Oh! You've just reminded me of something important! Speaking of inconveniences, I have three contracts unsigned as the government has **made heavy going of** importing electronics.

Sarah: Weird? Then I will **make a mention of** this issue in my upcoming article.

Clare: Great! And I'll provide you with every detail to **make our position clear**.

Sarah: You may think it **makes no difference**, but you're supposed to **make application to** the minister for an exception if you're in a hurry.

Clare: In fact, I've considered doing that but I thought it would truly make no difference. I'm not well-informed about such stuff – don't **make fun of me**.

Sarah: Not at all! You know what? Tracking all the legal mumbo jumbo in these contracts always **makes my head spin!**

Clare: You made sure nobody could **make you** as you posted the documents, right?

Sarah: Sure! They would **make the dust fly** in the media if they figured out my true identity.

make (one's) day: to give one great pleasure.

A nice comment on her post will make her day!

make fun of (someone or something): to mock or direct insults at someone/something.

What are these scores for heaven's sake? If you keep up like this, everyone is going to make fun of you.

make it a rule to (do something): to insist on doing something that one considers proper, beneficial, or appropriate.

To be on the safe side, you should make it a rule to back up your computer once a month at the very least!

make heavy going of (something): to make something harder or more laborious to do, especially more than is usual or necessary.

Using too many of these complex terms will make heavy going of the translation process.

make mention of (someone or something): to briefly mention someone/something.

Make sure you make mention of Jessie in the inauguration – she's very touchy.

make no difference

1. Of two or more options or actions, to not differ in effect.

It makes no difference if pay the bills today or next week.

2. To have no impact, either positive or negative.

Honestly, it will make no difference if she fails—this is just a demo test.

make (one's) head spin: to make one feel very dazed, bewildered, or shocked.

Sit and take a big breath, you're making my head spin.

make (one's) position clear: to make one's opinion, point of view, or intention (about something) clearly understood. Often used with modifiers before the word "clear."

There are lots of doubts hovering over your integrity. Unless you make your position crystal clear, things will continue to take a turn for the worse.

make (one): to identify one as a criminal or wrongdoer. Often used in passive forms.

You idiot! Why didn't you take precautions? See! you had been made!

make the dust fly: to cause disruption, confusion, or turmoil.

Stacy will make the dust fly if you make a mention of the files. Let's keep quiet about them!

make trouble: to act or behave in a troublesome manner; to cause problems or issues.

If Martin is joining us, count me out of this trip. He can't help but make trouble.

make application to (one) for (something): to submit a formal application for something to some person or body of authority.

I'm making application to HR for a training course abroad.

make free with (someone/something): to treat someone/something without much care, tact or respect.

Don't make free with the facts or you will lose your authenticity.

Don't make free with the interns. If they take you for granted, it will be hard to discipline them.

make matters worse: to make an already unpleasant or difficult situation even more so.

Breaking up with someone is always very difficult, but don't go making matters worse by doing it in a very public place.

Exercise (8)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. In the case of a restricted license the survivor must make within two months for a new license.
2. Tess just lost her job, and to make, her landlord is raising her rent.
3. Fans who make during the World Cup will be severely dealt with.
4. The Government have made on the route of the high-speed rail link and there is no reconsideration.
5. I told him to get lost, but it makes, he just keeps following me around.
6. His theories on economics are enough to make your
7. Elisabeth did not want to unpick the past with her and she never made of it.
8. The rough road made of our journey.
9. to use good general lighting. So, remember to position a standard lamp or table lamp somewhere behind you.
10. Never make of people who speak broken English. It means that they know another language.

Answers;

- 1. application 2. matters worse 3. trouble 4. their position clear 5. no difference 6. head spin 7. mention 8. heavy going 9. Make it a rule 10. fun*

Dialogue (9)

Mike: Jack earns so much money that he **makes nothing of** spending \$300 on a single meal.

Jane: Does he? But don't you think that he should be a bit more careful? You know life is like a roller-coaster.

Mike: I **made it clear** to him that his acts are unreasonable and he seemed to take notice. But **one swallow doesn't make a summer**; we have a long way to go to make him change.

Jane: Some people are **barely making it to** the end of the month and others are pouring money down the drain! Honestly, this paradox **makes me sick**.

Mike: Don't go hard on yourself! I mean **what difference does it make** if we go along with this or not?

Jane: Yeah; right! Before I forget; what are you up to this evening? We're **making over** the yard and we need your help.

Mike: With pleasure! But look at this survey! The handwriting is terrible! I'm **making nothing of** it. Bill's indifference **makes me sick**.

Jane: Send it back to him! You should be a bit harder on your employees – they are almost spoiled! As they say; **you can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs** after all.

Mike: I will; I will. But Bill is a special case; he is **making over** the car to his siblings today. This man survived an illness and got better than ever afterward. **What doesn't kill you makes you stronger**, right?

Jane: He's fortunate! Oh! I've to make a move right away or I'll **barely make it** to the baker's before they close.

make nothing of (something)

1. to regard something as unimportant, trivial, or not worth one's attention.
Jerry saw the doctor about the pain, but he seemed to make nothing of our concerns.

2. to be unable to understand, comprehend, or decipher something.
That report was so filled with obscure references and enigmatic analogies that we could make nothing of it.

make over

1. to make changes to someone's or something's appearance.
We're looking forward to making over the entire layout of the webpage.

After Kathy made over her face, she was almost unrecognizable!

2. to transfer ownership of a property to someone else in an official legal way.

Let's consult a lawyer to make over the house to our sisters.

make (it) plain/clear: to explain something clearly or make something obvious.

A meeting was arranged for Tim to make his concerns plain.

You must make it clear to the examiners that you understand this as the starting point for all evidence.

one swallow does not a summer make: one piece of evidence does not mean that something is definitely the case or is going to happen.

I'm so glad I passed today's test, but one swallow does not a summer make—I still have a long way to go when it comes to my graduation.

to barely make it

1. to come very close to failing at something but succeed in the end.

I barely made it through race this season. Obviously, I'm getting out of shape.

2. to come very close to being late for something, such as a deadline, appointment, class, etc., but manage to arrive on time in the end. A shortening of "barely make it on time."

Unless you pick up pace, you'll just barely make it to the film before it starts.

What difference does it make? Does it really matter? Does it cause any trouble?

One last question. What difference does it make if I get full insurance coverage?

Steven is moving out! What difference does it make?

you can't make an omelet without breaking (a few) eggs: Sometimes, you have to do unpleasant things in order to complete a task or meet a goal.

Unless we cut these trees, we won't be able to construct the school. It's unfortunate, but you can't make an omelet without breaking eggs.

what doesn't kill you makes you stronger: you can grow and learn from even the most negative experiences.

You'll get over this trauma and be better than ever afterward. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger, right?

make someone sick:

1. to cause someone to vomit or feel nauseous or unwell.

Wine makes me sick and so do shrimp.

2. to cause someone to feel intense annoyance or disgust.

What's making me sick is your being absent-minded and ignorant!

Exercise (9)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. What a hill! But even with her heavy bag, Amy made and was moving at top speed.
2. Why do you keep telling yourself the same thing? to you?
3. John has made it that he doesn't want us to take "Babylon" as a reference to the city in Iraq.
4. He soon found himself in that unsettled and hurrying state, which had long made him
5. It may be that they suffered an injustice, but, after all, you can't make
6. Before his death, Carl made his company to his wife.
7. Three engineers are hired to make the façade of the hotel.
8. They barely made through school, but they work for themselves today. They started and now run successful companies.
9. After a sleepless night and I got up late and barely made to work on time that day.
10. You're making progress as you've put up some lights and we can walk out at night. I would therefore say one and that the rehabilitation of one neighbourhood does not make a whole town.

Answers;

1. nothing of it 2. What difference does it make 3. clear 4. sick 5. an omelet without breaking a few eggs 6. over 7. over 8. it 9. it 10. swallow does not make a summer

Do; Collocations and Phrases

Dialogue (1)

Sam: It was **a do-or-die** situation. Maria was nervous before getting on stage, but once she went out there and **did her stuff**—everyone loved her speech.

Hana: That's fabulous! Although she was **doing double duty** during her training, she was able make the grade.

Sam: When we first employed her, we told her that we were searching for someone who does everything **by the book**! Honestly, she exceeded our expectations by her organization and perseverance.

Hana: Yeah; after two weeks of work, she could **do everything with her eyes closed**! Aren't you going to reward her?

Sam: Without any doubt! She **did the company a big honor** by that success.

Hana: I guess she expects us to **do away with** the old furniture in their office – it's time we expedited the process; we shouldn't **do that our own pace**.

Sam: I'll no longer **do stuff the hard way**! Let's bring some professionals to take care of the furniture thing. Okay?

Hana: Great idea! And make sure you transfer George to another department before I **do away with him**.

Sam: I saw him yesterday and he promised to **do a 180 degree turn** in his behavior. Please give him one more chance.

Hana: No way! This guy is making a mess of our work! **Do I need to draw a picture?** Sounds like we're shooting ourselves on the foot!

Sam: **Doing away with** George will **do us no good**. I'm sticking with him because half of our support is from his uncle! Without George we have to **do or die** to stay on the map.

Hana: What a strange paradox this! The uncle **does good** and the nephew is no good. Then George is **doing double duty** as well!

do something with (one's) eyes closed: very adept at doing something, with very little or no difficulty; able to accomplish something in a relaxed or effortless manner.

Your car is in good hands! Mike can replace the tyres with his eyes closed.

do (double) duty: to do two things simultaneously; to be able to serve two functions.

It's tough to do double duty all at once. How can you strike a balance between your studies and work?

This desk can do double duty as a dining and study table.

do (one) an honor: to do something that makes one feel very proud.

You'll do me a big honor if you choose me a representative of the firm. It means a lot to me.

do (one's) stuff: to do something that one is known to be skilled at.

Unless you can make yourself useful, get out of the way and let these guys do their stuff.

do (something) at (one's) own pace: to do something at the ideal speed for oneself.

We're not in a hurry to get our order - do it at your own pace.

do (something) by the book: to do something in accordance with rules or regulations.

If you're looking for someone to approve an exception, don't go to Ted—he does everything by the book.

do (something) the hard way: to do something by using the most challenging method, or at least not the easiest method.

Thomas spent an hour reheating the food in the oven instead of using the microwave—he has to do everything the hard way!

do a 180 degree turn: to make a big change in some area of one's life.
Mark quit his job as a teacher and took up business. This guy always surprises me – he just did a 180 degree turn!

do away with (someone, something, or oneself)

1. to stop or eliminate something.

Do away with these posters for heaven's sake – they're just making me sick for some reason!

2. to kill oneself, someone, or something.

The intruder did away with the woman and threw her corpse in the river. It was then found by children playing in the woods.

do good

1. to have a positive effect on someone. In this usage, a noun or pronoun is used between "do" and "good."

Go and relax after this long week. Nothing but enough sleep can do you good.

2. to focus one's energy on charitable acts. In this usage, "do good" is a set phrase.

Charles has been doing good all his life long in this town – he's bound to leave a mark.

Do I have to draw (you) a picture? Do I have to explain it in very simple terms? An annoyed response to someone who does not understand what the speaker is alluding to, especially when the speaker believes it to be obvious.
A: "Why are you walking back and forth like that? My head's spinning already!" B: I have a confrontation with Diana tonight! Do I have to draw you a picture?"

do or die

1. (adjective) Of or pertaining to the last chance to succeed in a given situation. (Hyphenated if used as a modifier before a noun).

With only two minutes remaining, the game is now do or die for the home team.

2. (verb) To put forth the utmost energy and effort or else fail altogether.

I'm totally overwhelmed – in this sector you do or die literally.

Exercise (1)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. How on earth could they do a lovely old building like that and put a car park there instead?
2. She tried to do herself after losing her family.
3. Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does and never sins.
4. The knowledge which temperance gives must be of a kind which will do us
5. Don't you know why I dialed your number by mistake? Does it ring a bell, can't you take a hint? Do?
6. It was not convenient for the volunteers to do Someone from our team should have taken over the food preparation task.
7. In recent years, great emphasis has been put on training to do in terms of the players' fitness.
8. There's no premium paid for having done something, so why not maximize your effectiveness and work smartly?
9. Come on! Mark is a chef; he can cook
10. A cop who doesn't exactly do things is the last thing we need here.

Answers;

- 1. away with 2. away with 3. good 4. good 5. I have to draw a picture 6. double duty 7. a 180-degree turn 8. the hard way 9. with his eyes closed 10. by the book*

Dialogue (2)

Mark: I can't believe you were **gossiping about me behind my back!**

Alice: No way! How dare you say something like that to me? Are you out of your mind?

Mark: Kind of! I can't believe you would **do me such an injustice!** You should be ashamed of yourself.

Alice: Obviously; I have no idea what you're talking about! **Do me a favor** and chill out for a sec.

Mark: Albert turned down my proposal after three days of approving it! Kathy also asked me to **do** the statistics **over** after she visited you although I **did the rounds** and hit every shop in town! **You do the math**—can't you see that you're just using me to get ahead in the company?

Alice: You're way in denial - nothing other than a confrontation can **do the business** here. Believe me you're **doing yourself and me a mischief** by these illusions.

Mark: I **did you a service** after a service and this is how you repay me!

Alice: You must get the facts straight before you come to these conclusions! I'll **do my part** and prove to you that you're wrong. But as from that moment we're no longer friends.

Mark: **Do your worst!**

Alice: Again; you're just **doing me justice!** This serves me right anyway! It's all because I am such a chump! How come do you accuse me of treachery? If I reveal your excesses in the open, I'll also be **doing myself mischief**. (To herself) **Damned if I do; damned if I don't!**

Mark: Actually, I'm just testing the waters! I just wanted to make sure that you're still committed to our plans.

Alice: You bastard! I had my heart stand still because of this nasty prank! Now! I **could do with** a tea – go and get it.

do something over

1. make something over to rebuild, redesign, or redecorate something.

I'll take a few days off to do/make over the family room because it has got dated and unsightly.

2. do something over (again) to repeat something; to do something again.

There are too many errors in this report! Would you do it one over, please?

do (one) a service/ favour: to help or aid one.

Hey, do me a favor and keep it down! My head is spinning.

Steven did me a big service by throwing that desk away. We've got plenty of room in the office right now.

do someone/something justice: treat someone/something with fairness.

I cannot let slip this occasion to do him justice by saying I really think he deserves our respect and appreciation.

do something behind someone's back: wrongdoing or deceit in one's absence.

After contacting the clients behind Tom's back, he no longer trusts anyone here.

do the business/the job/ the trick: to do what is exactly needed or wanted.

These tools should do the job. You'll be able to replace the tyre in a minute.

I tried many different ways to stop smoking. Acupuncture finally did the trick.

do the math: to figure out or put together information for oneself.

Staying longer does us no good. We have to pay for food and delivery fees – you do the math.

Why I removed them? They made bad comments about my post and I'm the admin. You do the math!

do the rounds: to visit or engage with certain things or peoples as part of a routine.

We're doing the rounds and passing around leaflets before the launch of the new product.

could do with (something): one would benefit from something.
Those wheels are looking awfully beat-up! You could do with some new ones.

damned if I do, damned if I don't: a situation in which one can't win.
Unless we cut costs, we won't be able to fund the entire project. We can't also compromise for quality. Damned if we do, damned if we don't!

do (one) a mischief: to do something that harms one.
You sure did your colleagues a mischief by criticizing them in front of the CEO.

do (one's) best: to do as well as one possibly can at something.
Don't beat yourself up! I know you did your best.
We're doing our best to keep you satisfied. Rest assured that you're in good hands.

Do one's part/ share/ bit: to do what one is responsible for doing or is able to do.
Just do your part – no more or less! Or we'll get into an endless confusion.
Go and take a rest. You guys have done your share!

do (one's) worst: to do something (typically something negative) to the fullest extent that one can. Often used as a challenging imperative.
I won't change my mind – do your worst!
They can do their worst, but I refuse to be intimidated.

do oneself/someone an injustice: to do something that is detrimental to one.
You're doing your kids an injustice by catering to their every whim—they need to learn to be independent.

Exercise (2)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Don't worry about what your spouse is not doing; just do your and God will reward you.
2. The conversation had now become general, and all were doing their to get away from the previous topic of tart discussion.
3. "You want me to prove to you that I'm mature enough to take the bull by the horns, which means that if I put off coming in for the tests, I'll have failed your test. So I'm"
4. Let's send these notes to James. I'm sure he some help.
5. Blackwell is determined, if possible, to kill me and you all say sit still and let him do his
6. I consider myself lucky to be out of this! I would have done myself a if I'd carried on.
7. Honours should only go to people who have done a to their country.
8. Three people attacked my out of the blue and I had a gun! You !
9. This room's color is gloomy! A coat of white paint can do !
10. Why am I upset? It's horrible to have people laughing at you

Answers;

1. part/ best 2. part/ best 3. damned if I do and damned if I don't 4. could do with 5. worst 6. mischief 7. service 8. do the math 9. the trick 10. behind your back

Dialogue (3)

Diana: I'm truly concerned about Simon; he's **smoking to excess** at work these days.

Mike: Is he? Hasn't he got over that divorce yet? I'm afraid Kathy **did him wrong** by that break-up.

Diana: Do you think she **did a number on him**?

Mike: I don't know! They used to get on really well. Then they started to fight like cat and dog constantly. The last time I saw them; Kathy complained that she wanted to **do her own thing** as a teacher but Simon stood in her way and wanted her to look after the kids.

Diana: I hope they **did the right thing**! I just wonder how both of them are **doing without** the kids!

Mike: Poor Alice, the youngest daughter, she still can't **do up** her shoe lace by herself! I heard the kids are helping their grandparents **do the dishes**. Isn't that cruel?

Diana: Yes, it is! I think it's time we take a step and end this farce.

Mike: How about making an arrangement to bring them together and force them to talk heart-to-heart and eventually make peace.

Diana: I don't think so! This method has been **done to death**! I don't want to make things worse. Wait a minute! A brilliant idea has just struck my mind; why don't we send bouquets of roses and **do them up with ribbons** with their names on both of them. You know; their wedding anniversary is just around the corner!

Mike: Fabulous! Flowers will undoubtedly **do wonders**! Wow! You're an expert when it comes to romance and love! Poor me – I still don't know the basic **do's and don'ts** of this stuff!

Diana: You should learn how to **do your homework** before it's too late! By the way; we need to run a new batch of reports to account for the changes we made.

Mike: But the first batch took me three hours to do! **Let George do it!**

do one's (own) thing: to do what one is interested in or skilled at, rather than simply doing what everyone else does.

Don't take notice of what everyone is doing over there – just do your own thing.

Enrolling in that department is a great opportunity for Elizabeth. She will finally be able to do her thing.

do one's homework: to be well-prepared.

No more interruptions from now on! We've done our homework and we can handle any inconvenience.

do something to death: perform or repeat something so frequently that it becomes tediously familiar.

Ugh, Hollywood has done superhero movies to death.

Do me a favor and turn off the TV. Don't they have some mercy on us! This show has been done to death!

do the dishes/ the washing up: to wash plates, glasses, bowls, silverware etc. with soap and water.

Jenny is supposed to do the dishes after lunch. She can't get out of it.

do the right thing: to act or behave correctly, appropriately, or with the best intentions.

I just try to do the right thing and let other people live as they wish.

do something to excess: to do too much of something; to consume too much of something.

Michael isn't sober right now. He has drunk to excess at parties.

You're praising him to excess – he's gonna be spoiled!

do wonders: to produce excellent results or be extremely effective.

Exercise can do wonders for body, mind, and spirit.

let George do it: A set expression used to defer responsibility for some task or action to some unspecified other person.

We're going to take the bull by the horn! We can't just sit there and let George do it.

do without (someone/something): manage or cope despite the absence of sb/sth.

I won't take the car today! I can do with the bike.

do (one) wrong: to mistreat, deceive, or betray one.

I can't believe that you're the one who did me wrong and sabotaged my presentation!

You did your parents wrong by leaving them stranded in the middle of nowhere.

do's and don'ts: The rules and regulations of some activity, operation, or situation.

Tom doesn't understand the basic do's and don'ts of social etiquette.

do up

1. to decorate or embellish someone or something.

I did the room up with crepe paper and balloons for the birthday party.

2. to fasten or close something (clothes); to wrap something, such as a package.

Can you please do up the zipper on the back of my dress?

I did up the present in silver wrapping paper and a big bow.

do a number on someone: trick someone, cheat someone; hurt someone very badly.

You are mistaken guys if you think that you can do a number on me - I wasn't born yesterday and I know this stuff inside out.

do/carry out/conduct research: to conduct a detailed study of a subject, especially in order to discover (new) information or reach a (new) understanding.

They are conducting some fascinating research into/on the language of dolphins.

do/conduct an investigation: to examine a crime, problem, statement, etc. carefully, especially to discover the truth.

The bank conducted its own internal investigation into the robbery.

Exercise (3)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. You don't need to do the top button.
2. Be sure you do your before heading into that meeting; there's a lot at stake, and no one's going to like it if you aren't up to speed.
3. We have to help Jenny get the job. It can do for her self-confidence.
4. The alien invasion movie has been done
5. I'll do as long as you're willing to clear the table.
6. Many people have the attitude of when they are on a committee.
7. I know I can rely on you to do
8. He's an integral part of the team and we can't do him.
9. They don't seem to be a couple; they just seem to be two people who do
10. She really did her old boyfriend, making him beg her to come back and then turning him down.

Answers;

1. up 2. homework 3. wonders 4. to death 5. the dishes 6. letting George do it 7. the right thing 8. without 9. their own thing 10. a number on

Have; Collocations and Phrases

Dialogue (1)

Sally: Hey Tom! I'd like **to have a word with you**.

Tom: Okay. What's it about?

Sally: You better **have the facts straight** before you accuse anyone of anything.

Tom: I still don't know what you're getting at. Please get to the point! I **hardly have time to breathe** these days.

Sally: You clearly **have your head in the sand** regarding the security breach. Haven't you? The perpetrator won't come to you at their will.

Simultaneously, you shouldn't do anyone around here any injustice. The whole matter could be a hoax.

Tom: This is not the case. I have confidence in all of you and this what drove me crazy. If none of you would take responsibility for such casual issue, how come can we handle the serious ones?

Sally: Tom; I know you **have your heart in this business** and you really have a heart of gold. But still I **have your number** – you're trying to get rid of some people. Aren't you?

Tom: Here we go again! Being my sister doesn't mean you have the right to poke your nose into other people's affairs.

Sally: Let me remind you that you wanted to **have me close at hand** to make use of my recommendations and suggestions not **have me under your thumb**. If you keep at it, well; I'm going to **have my own say**. **I've clearly had my share of your troubles**, I will go my own way so that I can have **a clear conscience**.

Tom: Excuse me; Sally! You're a pushover. You can be easily influenced by other people's remarks. The other day you came and accused me of **having my nose in the air** just because you heard that from others. Didn't you?

Sally: Oh; No! Tom; Don't blow things out of proportion! I love you and I care about your interests. Believe it or not I **had my heart stand still** when the inspectors were talking about the breach. I know this will cause you a lot of damage but don't do others mischief by being too tough.

Tom: Your words are like magic. You remind me of my mother's kindheartedness and sympathy. Just for your sake, I won't fire any of them.

Sally: Thanks dear! You're the light of my life! I knew you wouldn't disappoint me.

Tom: Let's just **have our fingers crossed** that we get over this security issue without costly losses.

Could I have a word with you? I need to speak to you briefly in private.

A. *“James can I have a word with you?”* B. *“Sure Mr. Heart I will be right there,*

A young guy I'd never met before came up to the front row, stood next to me, and said, “Can I have a word with you?”

hardly have time to breathe: to be extremely busy.

Then in mid school I hardly had time to breathe, let alone get involved with a man.

Grimes gave me an assignment, and I was so busy all day, I hardly had time to breathe.

have (got) one's number: to understand someone or the true purpose of their actions.

I've got your number – don't think you can fool me.

I don't think Jessie will accept the invitation. She's a hard nut to crack. I've got her number.

have/keep (one's) fingers crossed: to hope for good luck or that something will happen.

Bingham is keeping his fingers crossed that Gray's withdrawal is the only one.

We still keep our fingers crossed that everything keeps going well!

have/hide/bury (one's) head in the sand: to refuse to acknowledge or deal with problems or danger especially in the hopes that they will resolve themselves.

Come on! you may lose your house! You expect a miracle to save you. Don't you? You've got to face facts here - you can't just bury your head in the sand.

have/stick (one's) nose in the air: to have a haughty or disdainful manner.

You've got to be down-to-earth to win people's hearts. You can't walk past them sticking your nose in the air.

have/put (one's) heart in (something): to do something with passion and zeal.

I guess you forget to put your heart in this dish. That's not your typical performance.

No wonder Mike refused to carry on. He didn't seem to have his heart in the role.

have (something) at hand/ fingertips: to have someone or something nearby or physically within one's reach.

The Internet is so easy to access these days, we have every resource imaginable at our fingertips!

To make the best of your stay in Russia, keep a dictionary at hand.

have (someone) under one's thumb/ in ones pocket: to maintain authoritarian control over someone; to continually force someone to submit to one's will.

Your kids need more space. You can't keep them under your thumb all their lives.

He's got the committee firmly under his thumb - they agree to whatever he asks.

have a clear conscience: to be guiltless or have no feelings of remorse over something.

To have a clear conscience, Mike left a lot of money in the kids' bank account.

Baba closed by saying that the accusations were baseless, that he had a clear conscience.

have/make (one's) heart stand still: to experience excitement, nervousness, or fear.

When the phone rang I had my heart standstill. I knew Alice was in trouble. We were hiding behind the bushes and the noise of their footsteps made our hearts stand still!

have (one's) say: to express or make known one's views, opinions, or ideas.

Go ahead and have your say! It's a one in a million chance to speak up.

Let them have their say before signing the contract. I don't want any headache in the future.

have (one's) share of (something): to have a sufficient amount of something.

Although Mike is only eleven, he had his share of setbacks and heartbreaks in life.

Keep it down kids. Everybody will have their share of the pie.

have/get the facts straight: to know and understand the facts of a situation accurately.

*I made my way to their house late at night to have the facts straight.
The committee cannot take action without getting the facts straight.*

Exercise (1)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Mark is going to change his mind shortly after the outset. I got his since we were classmates.
2. When you are working in the kitchen, you must have a fire extinguisher
3. He shut me out and buried his because it was easier than facing his fears.
4. What's wrong with Jane? She just walked in with her, ignoring everyone.
5. You can't be half-hearted about the deal. You've got to put your
6. We're just hoping the weather stays nice and keeping our
7. A. "Excuse me, Hanson, but could I have with you, please?"
B. "Can't we speak later, Lane?"
8. Albert had the whole government in his and could take decisions without consulting them.
9. I've had my of heart breaks and understand what it feels like to be on the receiving end.
10. He had taken no vacations for six years. The pressures of life wore him out; he hardly had

Answers;

- 1. number 2. at hand 3. head in the sand 4. nose in the air 5. heart in it 6. fingers crossed 7. a quick word 8. pocket 9. share 10. time to breathe*

Dialogue (2)

Bill: You look worried—do you **have** something **on your mind**?

Mike: I do! I have a feeling that Simon **has a hand in** my loss because of his **loose tongue**. I got distracted on the way to work this morning thinking about this matter and I almost got struck by a speeding car. It was a **close shave**.

Bill: That's awful! How come? Simon doesn't **have the slightest clue about** your deals or relations.

Mike: He does! Actually, he overheard my discussion with Emilie and I didn't make much of it.

Bill: I beg to differ here! Simon doesn't even **have a nodding acquaintance with** your competitors. He is engaged in his football training around the clock. It could be Emilie who spilled the beans.

Mike: If she did it, she would face the music sooner or later. Let me first of all do my investigations.

Bill: Although it's too late to find out your enemy, you still **have a fighting chance** to save face by backing out. You could say that the confidentiality term had been violated. Now, listen to this plan. It'll definitely lead us to the actual traitor.

Mike: Fill me in; I'm all ears!

Bill: You're going to set a trap by faking a business trip. During your absence we try to track Simon and Emilie. If one of them gets in touch with your opponents, I will have a chance to take them off guard and catch them and get a footage. What do you say?

Mike: You're a real genius! I thought I **had a firm grip on** my business, but it turned out I'm an idiot.

Bill: Relying on people who **have a good command** in the market is not a mistake. But you can't share everything. This can **have a negative impact** on your progress and success.

Mike: I was clearly overwhelmed and let some important stuff slip. That was a mistake; I admit. You know me very well; I **have a passion for** my work and I don't spare any effort to keep moving forward.

Bill: Mind you; Emilie is very touchy and **has a sharp tongue**. Make sure you don't say a word till we have a proof. You may take it out on Simon initially. He **has a thick skin**.

Mike: Never mind! I have **a way with both of them**. I'll do what it takes to clear up this mystery. I don't care how they feel or anything. All I care about is to get the truth and I will **have a clear conscience** in this whole affair.

have (someone or something) on (one's) mind: to be thinking about someone or something, perhaps to the point of preoccupation.

Maya has her cat on her mind all the time. She's constantly feeding the cat and playing with it.

I have the children on my mind the moment they left the house.

have a close shave/ near miss: to narrowly escape from or avoid a dangerous situation.

You had a close shave, but you knew when you accepted this job that there would be risks.

I had a close shave this morning; some idiot almost knocked me off my bike.

have a loose tongue: talk too much, especially about things that are private.

You don't have to whisper. Everyone knows now thanks to Mike's loose tongue.

You had better keep your distance from Brian. Not only he's ignorant but has got a loose tongue.

have a nodding acquaintance with someone or something: to know someone slightly; know a little about something.

I'm afraid I have only a nodding acquaintance with his works.

Even those with whom I only had nodding acquaintance started visiting me frequently.

have a fighting chance: to have some possibility to succeed or overcome a situation.

When they didn't shoot at me right away, I figured I had a fighting chance.

If you win this round then you still have a fighting chance.

have/take/keep a firm grip on (someone or something): to possess tight and complete control over someone or something.

Heed my warning—you need to have a firm grip on Mike. He's talented, sure, but he's reckless!

The recession could be avoided if business keeps a firm grip on its costs!

have a good command of (something): to be knowledgeable about or skilled in a particular area or thing.

He's studied in the US and has a good command of English.

Why don't we consult Joe? He has a good command of the information provided in this book.

have a hand in (something): to be involved or influential in the planning, creation, or execution of something.

Ocalan has said rebels who broke away from his group may have had a hand in the killing.

Bill is frustrated because he knew that several of his colleagues had a hand in his downfall.

have a passion for (something): to have a very strong interest in something.

I have a passion for this profession with highly proficient professional capabilities and skills.

He has a passion for football, seedless grapes, fresh chicken and spiders in the bath.

have a sharp tongue: to have a tendency to speak maliciously or critically.

He arrived home only to be greeted by his wife's sharp tongue!

Only that you have a sharp tongue and an undisciplined sister, neither of which attributes I find endearing.

have a thick (or thin) skin: be insensitive (or oversensitive) to criticism or insults.

I have a great sense of humor, I have a thick skin as my friends say; I always make everyone feel comfortable, because I can take a joke.

Never mind Clare! She has got a thick skin and never cares a bit about other people's criticisms.

have a way with (someone or something): to have a special skill when working with someone or something.

Rest assured that Sarah will take a good care of Mike and Steve. She has got a way with children.

We need your help to prepare the speech because we don't have a way with words like you.

have an impact on (someone or something): to affect or influence someone or something.

The anti-smoking campaign had had quite an impact on young people.

Don't worry; your grade on that assignment has a very little impact upon your overall grade for the semester.

Exercise (2)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. You need to be a good team player and have of skills such writing, reading, speaking and listening.
2. The report says that terrorists are unlikely to have in the explosion. A technical error turned out to be the real cause.
3. He drove like a maniac. We had one after another.
4. The place is not as safe as it appears to be. If you have only a the neighborhood, you shouldn't walk around on you own.
5. Excuse me guys! I can't help being distracted. I have got a lot at the moment.
6. The Chinese, who have for football, failed to qualify for the tournament.
7. Take my word for it! You can't pursue a career as a teacher if you have a
8. Now that I have a on the business, I can begin steering it to the success I know it can achieve.
9. We may bring Michael to stop the dog. He has a with animals.
10. Working at the complaint desk of a store is a good job only if you have a

Answers;

- 1. good command 2. a hand 3. near miss 4. nodding acquaintance with 5. on my mind 6. a passion 7. Loose/sharp tongue 8. firm grip 9. way 10. thick skin*

Dialogue (3)

Tony: Do you think Paul suspects that we're having a surprise party for him?

Lisa: No, he **doesn't have a clue!** Our plan will work out exactly right and everything is going on as planned.

Tony: I know I can depend on you! You know what? Paul **has a chip on his shoulder** and may go nuts over the prank.

Lisa: Yeah! He **has got a loose screw** but I'm dying to see him startled to death. I'm bound to **have a big laugh**.

Tony: But he could go wild and we end up **having a tiger by the tail**. I have a **strong hunch** that he will take it amiss.

Lisa: Spare me your comments right now. I won't back out no matter what.

Tony: Anyway! Let's keep going! We have to blow up the balloons and get some flowers. We clearly **have a long way to go**.

Lisa: I will ask you a favor; as far as I know you **have a good grasp of** poetry. Could you write some lines on this card?

Tony: With pleasure. Let me go online first of all. I seem to **have a memory like a sieve** these days. I wish I could study literature rather than agriculture. I still **have a lump in my throat** remembering how I missed that chance.

Lisa: That's what you get out of blowing your own horns! You kept bragging that you **had a green thumb** at that time. You loved poetry and literature but you didn't follow your passion.

Tony: Never mind! Why are you fiddling with these cables without wearing shoes? Do you **have a death wish** or something?

Lisa: You idiot! I have already switched off the power button.

Tony: Have you heard from Alice yet? I have called her so many times but she wouldn't answer any of my calls! What's wrong with her?

Lisa: Alice **has a lot to answer for!** Obviously she changed a lot after going around with Silva.

not have a clue: to be hopelessly confused, ignorant or unaware of something.

Don't ask your father which key to press - he hasn't got a clue about computers.

She's parked an enormous pile of papers on my desk and I haven't a clue what to do with them.

have a/(one's) finger in every pie: to be involved in several different activities.

They have a finger in every pie; mining, manufacturing, construction, even television stations.

There are only so many hours in the day, and you cannot have your finger in every pie.

have/get a (good/solid/sound/etc.) grasp of/on (something): to have a firm, clear understanding or determination of something.

After so many years of research, he has sound grasp of European history.

Working with native speakers helped me get a good grasp of the language.

have a laugh: to joke or kid around; to act or behave in a lighthearted, foolish manner.

They're a good class to teach. You can joke and have a laugh with them.

We've both had a good laugh about the accident despite what's happened.

have a lump in (one's) throat: to have difficulty speaking as a result of feeling that one is about to cry due to an intense emotional response to something.

It had been several years since her death but Emily still got a lump in her throat just thinking about her.

have (got) a tiger by the tail: to be involved with someone or something that is powerful and could become troublesome or threatening.

the defense attorney turned red in the face, and I knew that lawyer had a tiger by the tail.

Half of our products are faulty! I think we have a tiger by the tail.

have a chip on (one's) shoulder: to have an angry or unpleasant attitude.

He also has a chip on his shoulder about women. He doesn't speak well even of his wife.

He has a chip on his shoulder about my family being so rich, and me being at

Harvard.

have a death wish: to act in a reckless or dangerous manner.

Some trade union leaders seem to have a death wish overemployment.

You don't use your seatbelt? What do you have, a death wish?

have a green thumb: to have a proclivity for successfully growing plant life.

She's got a really green thumb; plants seem to respond to her.

Mr. Wilson's neighbors say his flowers grow because he has a green thumb.

have a hunch (about someone or something/ that something or something is the case): to have a feeling that something will or should happen.

I have a hunch that Jodie may be planning a surprise party.

I had a hunch that Susan and I would work well together.

have a long way to go: to still have lots of work to do in order to accomplish something.

You have a long way to go to win them back.

He has a long way to go before he can present the scheme to the public.

have a loose screw: to be particularly silly, eccentric, crazy, or mentally unstable.

What's the matter with you? Why are you yelling like hell? Do you have a screw loose, or what?

She must have a screw loose, having a picnic on such a rainy day!

have a lot to answer for: to be in a position to accept responsibility or be questioned or punished for having behaved poorly, unscrupulously, or recklessly.

This product is way below average. The manager has a lot to answer for.

The death of these animals did not come out of the blue and the state has a lot to answer for.

have a memory like a sieve: to be exceptionally forgetful or absentminded.

If I didn't mention you by name, that doesn't mean I don't love you; I just have a memory like sieve, especially when it comes to important moments like this.

When it comes to locations and directions, I do seem to have a memory like a sieve.

Exercise (3)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Alicia had a as she remembered her dead son.
2. You had better take notes to be on the safe side if you have a
3. There was still a Nonetheless, some progress had been made.
4. The flower show season is upon us, and whether you have a or not, you should take a look at your garden.
5. Sometimes I have a that they're all making fun of me.
6. The Doyle kid has had a ever since his mom and dad divorced.
7. He speaks so indistinctly that many listeners haven't a what he is saying.
8. He wanted to know everything, have a, and be there all the time to make sure he was in full control.
9. Crowds of celebs have a and raise loads of cash for children.
10. Before I did the jump, people would ask if I had a

Answers;

- 1. lump in her throat 2. memory like a sieve 3. long way to go 4. green thumb 5. hunch 6. chip on his shoulder 7. clue 8. finger in every pie 9. laugh 10. death wish*

Dialogue (4)

Jessie: *I have a score to settle with* that no-good swindler who cheated me out of my inheritance.

Clare: Well; that's what you get out of **having your head in the clouds**. You were literally daydreaming and refused to open your eyes. It was plain as day that that bastard was setting you up.

Jessie: Don't rub it in for heaven's sake! I'd rather die than hear that.

Clare: *I had a bad feeling and doubts about* him all along! My gut feelings never fail me. You used to call me insensitive but I was right when I refused to **have contact with him**.

Jessie: Easy on me! I've **had enough of** this humiliation. I am not here to **have an argument** with you. We have to figure out some way to regain our swindled property.

Clare: Alright! You **have the right to** take a legal action against him. So; go for it!

Jessie: But he's a lawyer. He **has a good grasp of and wide experience in** such legal issues. He knows the law and its loopholes inside out. In comparison, we **lack the staying power** to stick with it.

Clare: I beg to differ. Being a lawyer **has nothing to do with** winning or losing a case. He clearly did you an injustice and the judge is the one who **has the last word** in this matter. When it comes to justice, the law and only the law will **have precedence**.

Jessie: Honestly; *I have a hard time going* to courts and attending trials.

Clare: Then, will you just take it sitting down? Come on! We have to face the facts and take action immediately.

Jessie: I wish he **had an accident** and would stay in hospital for the rest of his life.

Clare: Sounds like we **have come a long way!** At least he's no longer your sole mate!

Jessie: Shut up!

have a score to settle: to have an old problem, grudge, or grievance (with or against someone or something) that one wishes or intends to redress or rectify.

You can't get away with it! We've got a score to settle.

have a/the right to (something): to have the permission or authority to do something.

This used to be common land, where everyone had the right to graze animals. The company had the right to terminate his employment at any time.

have an accident: to unexpectedly experience something with unpleasant consequences.

You can claim on the insurance if you have an accident while on holiday. If you drive a car all your life, the odds are that you'll have an accident at some point.

have an argument (with someone): to engage in a verbal fight or disagreement.

You've only heard his side of the story. It takes two to have an argument, you know.

She broke the vase during an argument with her husband over their expenses.

have come a long way: to have made significant progress or improvement.

There are still many gaps and setbacks, but we have come a long way. Microwave ovens have come a long way since they first appeared in our kitchens.

have contact with (one): to communicate with one.

They are naturally keen to have contact with anyone who can help them carry on their mission.

have had enough: to have had as much of something as is needed or will be tolerated.

Let her go to hell! I have had enough of her impudence and derogatory remarks.

My guess is that many of you have had enough of life here and need some way out.

have (no) staying power: to be unable to remain relevant, influential, profitable, or successful in the future.

You can't go to the competition on this horse. It has no staying power.

Someone who lacks staying power and persistence is unlikely to make a good researcher.

have nothing to do with (someone or something)

1. To be unrelated or irrelevant to someone or something.

The death of whales and seals on our coasts has nothing to do with pollution.

2. To completely avoid or end all relations with someone or something.

The neighbours have nothing to do with me and I only see them once a week or so.

have precedence over: to have an existing priority over someone or something else.

The holiday schedule will have precedence over the weekly schedule.

The community usually has precedence over the individual.

have the last word: to say the final words in an argument or discussion to end it.

The sales manager is supposed to have the last word in situations like this.

have (one's) doubts (about): to be wary or uncertain of someone or something.

I can't delegate any task because I continue to have doubts about Newsome's competence.

Have difficulty/ a hard time doing something: find it hard to do something.

I always have a hard time keeping up with my deadlines.

have (one's) head in the clouds: to be impractical, aloof, or fanciful, often to the point of being very unhelpful or counterproductive.

As long as you have your head in the clouds, you're unlikely to overcome these difficulties.

Exercise (4)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Simulators have in recent years and today many of them use screen addressing to update the information.
2. Letters written by Glasgow have been given over letters written by others.
3. Teens are constantly looking for more stimulation and have a being able to stop and smell the roses.
4. The pictures are used to reduce the boringness of the book and have with the content.
5. I had a massive with Sue yesterday, but at least it has cleared the air.
6. Having served in four governments, he has the greatest of any politician today.
7. The Chairman always has on financial decisions.
8. Having your merely obscures your view of the world and produces no positive results.
9. If you do have and problems about the job these should be discussed privately before things reach a crucial stage.
10. Robert had an in the lab. He was opening a bottle of acid and he spilt some on his hands.

Answers;

1. *come a long way* 2. *precedence* 3. *hard time* 4. *nothing to do* 5. *argument* 6. *staying power* 7. *the last word* 8. *head in the clouds* 9. *doubts* 10. *Accident*

Dialogue (5)

Greg: The car **has a lot in common with** the more expensive model, but it does not have an advanced audio system.

Mike: Well! We have been looking around for three weeks. **Have pity on me**, you have a right to get a good car but you are too fussy.

Greg: You are right! But I am not buying a car every day! I **have confidence in** your expertise and you'll **have the last say** in this matter anyway.

Mike: Alright! You'll **have the last laugh** only if you compromise on color and appearance for the sake of quality.

Greg: Let me make a confession to you; my neighbor is a CEO. He drives his luxury car with his nose in the air. I'm dying to cut him down to size. If **I had my druthers**, I'd get a Ferrari.

Mike: Oh! **I have my hands tied** at this point. Your wife must **have the patience of Job** or else she would have left you long before.

Greg: Come on Mike! You can't let me down. Honestly; my heart **stood still** at the mention of my wife. She would raise hell if she learned that I sold my stocks to get a car.

Mike: You idiot! As long as you don't **have the guts to** stand up for your decisions, why did you make that move?

Greg: Mike; you **have my number** and I guess you understand what I'm working on. Despite his arrogance, our neighbor is such a successful business man and literally **has the Midas touch**. All I'm trying to do is to attract his attention. I'd like to have many contacts and **many strings to my bow**.

Mike: Good luck keeping up with the Johnsons young man.

have (something) in common (with someone or something): to share characteristics, interests, opinions, etc. with someone or something.

Culturally, they have much in common with their neighbours just across the border.

We should be focusing on what we have in common rather than emphasizing our differences.

have pity/mercy on (one): to act compassionately or with sympathy toward one.

A group of robbers and their captain took pity on the boy and changed his fate.

Learn to have mercy on the ones who hurt you, because they are poor people too.

have the final say: to have the authority to make the final decision.

He may very likely consult with his players in this respect, but he will have the last say.

Parliament will have the final say on non-compulsory expenditure.

have the guts (to do something): to have enough courage, conviction to do something.

From then on, the driver did not have the guts approaching that T-junction anymore.

He doesn't have the guts to walk away from a well-paid job.

have the last laugh: to ultimately achieve success after encountering adversity or doubt from others.

There will be dirty tricks concerning money, but wise investors will have the last laugh.

We'll have the last laugh if she finds out that you're the one who played the trick.

have the Midas touch: to have the ability to be successful, especially the ability to make money easily. (**Midas:** a legendary king whose touch turned everything to gold.)

George went from zero to hero in a short while. Folks around him say he has the Midas touch.

All his firms are extremely profitable. He literally has the Midas touch.

have confidence/trust/faith in (someone or something): to trust or have faith in someone or something.

Many people no longer have confidence in the criminal justice system.

Have faith in your dreams and someday, your rainbow will come smiling through.

have (one's) hands tied: to be prevented from acting, helping, or intervening.

I would love to approve your application, but I have my hands tied by the regulations.

Many times, we ran into illegal immigrants. We had our hands tied unless they broke other laws.

have (one's) heart stand still: to experience very strong emotions, especially excitement, nervousness, or fear, such that it feels as though one's heart stops beating for a moment.

We had our hearts stand still when the boss appeared out of nowhere.

Each creak of the house made my heart stand still.

have many strings to (one's) bow: to have many reliable opportunities, skills, or resources at one's disposal.

I'm never out of work because I have so many strings to my bow.

As both a novelist and a university lecturer, she has two strings to her bow.

have (one's) rather/druthers: to have one's choice or preference; to have things the way one would like them to be; to have one's way.

If I had my druthers, I'd just as soon skip breakfast most days and hit the gym at noon.

If I had my druthers, I wouldn't have been lying down in the hospital.

have the patience of Job: to have an immense and unyielding degree of patience and conviction, especially in the face of problems or difficulty.

Mr. Jim didn't put up with any foolishness, but he loved his students and had the patience of Job.

When it came to his attention problems, she had the patience of Job.

Exercise (5)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. If all goes well then, the child will have in himself and in the world.
2. A tiger is coming at you, now without fear you can stand there and grin, but the tiger will have the
3. I had my when the truck on the highway almost hit our car.
4. She had a when it came to investing, and it was clear that she relished her talent.
5. We can advise the client, but in the end it is he who has the
6. Jason doesn't have the to take a firm stand; he sticks his head in the sand and refuses to deal this problem.
7. Lady Godiva asked her husband to have on the people , but her stony-hearted husband showed no pity.
8. I've nothing against him - I just don't have much with him.

Answers;

- 1. confidence 2. last laugh 3. heart stand still 4. Midas touch 5. final say 6. guts 7. mercy 8. in common*

Dialogue (6)

Mary: I know you love ice cream, but you can't eat it every day and lose weight—you **just can't have it both ways**

Amanda: How can you get a grip on yourself? Obviously I seem to lack the willpower in this area. Discipline isn't really my thing.

Mary: Leading an aimless lifestyle is a sure recipe for underachievement. I mean you need to set goals and stick with them. You will for sure **get the willpower to spare in** your life.

Amanda: **You've got me there!** Easier said than done! Not only I **have a short temper** but I have a hard time focusing on one particular task. My impulses and weaknesses always **have the upper hand** and eventually I give up.

Mary: Sounds like we **have got our wired crossed**. I don't actually want you to go hard on yourself or anything – All I'm trying to say is your disorganized lifestyle is the core of the problem. You won't get anywhere without getting your acts together.

Amanda: Right! Worthwhile stuff can't be obtained overnight. It takes time to get somewhere and as they say; you have to learn to walk before you run. The proper way to ascend stairs is to take one step at a time. Good to have you Mary; you've always been a great help.

Mary: My pleasure.

Have/with (something) to spare: to have enough of something that one is able to use or share with others.

Anyone who has time to spare and would like to help can contact Moira.

With Christmas coming up, few people have much money to spare.

Have a short temper: have a tendency to become angered, enraged, or upset very quickly or easily.

I'm usually a pretty calm person, but whenever I start driving, I find I have such a short temper.

He had a short temper and was prone to outbursts of violence.

have the upper hand: to have a position of advantage, power, and/or control (over someone, something, or some situation).

In the South, the right-wing Rhee supporters clearly had the upper hand.

My brother had gotten the upper hand in their fight, but I was kept standing by if necessary.

Have/get (one's) wires crossed: to be or become confused, mistaken (about something). Of two or more people, to have a miscommunication or misunderstanding.

Sounds like I've got my wires crossed; I answered all the questions on a separate paper.

We got our wires crossed and I waited for an hour in the wrong place.

can't have it both ways: cannot have two contradictory things at once.

We cannot have it both ways: the cost of a cleaner environment could be fewer jobs in dirty industries.

You can't have it both ways. If you can afford to go out all the time, then you can afford to pay off some of your debts.

You('ve) got me there

1. That is a question or problem to which I do not know the answer or solution.

A: *"The plan sounds good, but what do we do if the boss comes back early?"* B: *"Hmm, you got me there. Run, I guess."*

2. You have pointed something out that I am unable to explain, refute, or deny.

A: *"Yes, but isn't it true that you accepted campaign donations from several corporations that are lobbying against this proposal?"* B: *"Well, you got me there."*

Take:

Collocations and Phrases

Dialogue_(1)

Allan: Now, you must drop over and see us tomorrow. We won't **take no for an answer**.

Robert: Actually, I have to stay at home tomorrow - I can't **take my eyes off** my son for a second or he'll wander off and get into trouble.

Allan: Sounds like your fear of your wife has **taken hold of you!** Can't she take over for a day?

Robert: **Don't get me wrong** – my wife has nothing to do with my arrangements or plans!

Allan: **Do take me for a fool** or are you **trying to take my measure?** Come on; Allan! You've changed a lot after marriage – it doesn't take a genius to figure it out!

Robert: Yeah, you're determined to **take my head off!** Well then, **it takes one to know one!** Let me get to the point then –I need your help.

Allan: What's the matter?

Robert: You know we **took great pains** to set up our shop but we haven't got an official license yet because of the delays. The police may **take us off guard** at any moment and fine us!

Allan: Well; I'll do my best to expedite the license process, but you had better **take the right measures** without any delay.

Robert: What exactly should we do?

Allan: Put some signs and posters on the front door. You may write that the shop is out of service or something like that. Tomorrow morning I'll **take them around** the neighborhood and show them your shop just in case. Now; **take a seat** and I'll tell you what I want you to do when we get there.

Robert: Nice! By the way; we have got a nice collection of suits and they are bound to **strike your fancy**. There is also a wide variety of colors and models to **take your pick** for free of course.

Allan: Just leave me alone and I'm fine.

it takes one to know one: the person who expressed criticism has similar faults to the person being criticized.

A: *"I don't want to join the part because of Linda—she's a nerd!"* B: *"Takes one to know one!"*

not take no for an answer: not to accept someone's refusal. (a polite way of being insistent.)

You have to run this errand for your mother. They just wouldn't take no for an answer.

not take (one's) eyes off (someone or something): to keep under constant surveillance.

The inspectors won't be taking their eyes off you now that they know you've tried to cut corners in the past.

take (a)hold

1. to grasp or seize something in one's hands.

Take hold of this rope and lower yourself out the window.

2. to become settled, established, or in control with great power and tenacity.

Panic took hold of the crowd when the gunshot was heard.

take (great) pains over (something): to expend a lot of time and effort doing something.

Your parents took great pains over your education, make sure you don't disappoint them!

The manufacturers must have taken great pains over the interior design of this impeccable car.

take (one) for an idiot/ a fool: to presume or believe that one is very stupid or foolish.

Don't take the chief for a fool just because she didn't examine the report. She may play dumb, but she's very astute.

Do you take me for an idiot? There's no way I'm falling for that again.

take (one) off guard: to engage, take advantage of, or seize upon one when one is not especially careful, vigilant, or prepared for danger or surprises.

Your opponent is famous for his tricky moves; he'll try to take you off guard!

The soldiers moved in quickly, hoping to take the enemy troops off guard.

take (one) round: to guide someone through and introduce them to some place.

I have made arrangements to take the suppliers round the city after lunch.

take/get someone or something wrong: to misunderstand someone or something.

You must have got me wrong! I said we had to remove the door's paint not the windows'.

catch/take/tickle somebody's fancy: please or attract somebody.

Mary caught Alan's fancy while they were taking s music course.

Let's see another shop. Nothing seems to strike my fancy in here.

take (one's) head off: to criticize or respond to one in an extremely aggressive manner.

What's wrong with Jessie today? She's got a long face and seems to be ready to take everybody's head off!

take (one's) measure: to evaluate; to judge the qualities of someone or something.

The coach wants to take the new member's measure by having him complete this task on his own.

Be sure to take the car's measure with a test drive before you buy it.

take measures/steps: to do what is necessary to prepare for or prevent something.

We're currently taking steps to prevent the recurrence of such inconveniences in the future.

Following public outcry, the government has taken steps to rectify its policies from scratch.

take (one's) pick: to choose from among several options. choose whatever you like.

We've got 45 flavors. Vanilla, chocolate, bacon ...—take your pick.

With that much money you can have your pick of any car in the showroom.

take (one's)/a seat: to sit down. Usually said as a request, invitation, or command.

OK, everyone, take your seats!

Please go in and ask everyone to take their seats so the ceremony can begin.

Exercise (1)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Go out there—you see the pile? Take I sell them by weight, no promises made as no questions asked or answered.
2. A good-looking guy like you—I can't believe some sweet, young thing hasn't struck
3. He's been known to invite them in and keep them for days—take them town and show them all the hot spots.
4. It shall be unlawful for any passenger to refuse to take a among those assigned to the race to which he belongs.
5. Life throws us curveballs at times—unexpected events that take us and are capable of devastating us.
6. I require states parties to take against offending vessels and persons either.
7. Whilst the court took to emphasize that this shareholding had in no way influenced the Lord Chancellor's decision, nevertheless the decision could not stand.
8. Be sure to take the phone's with a test drive before you buy it.
9. A. “How do you inform them about our plan? You’re such an idiot!”
B. “Yeah! It takes!”
10. Calm down Mike - there is no need to take the boy's about such a simple matter.

Answers;

1. *your pick* 2. *your fancy* 3. *around* 4. *seat* 5. *off guard* 6. *measures* 7. *great pains* 8. *measure* 9. *one to know one* 10. *head off*

Dialogue (2)

Rachel: No one can cook better than Fred. **Take my word for it.**

Bill: Oh, yes. It's true. How come everyone **takes him for granted** then?

Rachel: Who said that? We **took Bill into our hearts** the first moment we met him. Not only this but also we **took it upon ourselves** to make him feel at home as soon as possible.

Bill: But I guess he's **taking your remarks amiss**. A few minutes ago I overheard him talking to his sister on the phone. He said that nobody would **take anything off his hands** here and he no longer felt as a roommate but only a servant.

Rachel: Oh! Seriously! Could you please **take your time** and say again what he exactly said?

Bill: As I told you! The man is fed up!

Rachel: Then, I'm gonna **take this matter by the throat** and make everyone understand that we're all equal in this flat. Fred will get his dues one way or another.

Bill: You **should take into consideration** that Fred also **takes too many responsibilities on himself**. You have to share the workload guys! Even if Fred is a good cook, he shouldn't cook all the time.

Rachel: Yeah! Absolutely! Consider this matter resolved! **Take my word for this**; I know very well how to handle it. Now; I heard your **team took the Stars by storm**.

Bill: Yeah; we won by a wide margin this time thanks to the new coach's efforts. This guy is **taking the entire school by storm** everybody adores him. Last night his car broke down on the highway and the headmaster himself **took the coach's car in tow** by his own car to the mechanic.

take (one's) time: to go at one's own pace; to use as much time as one needs or desires.

Let's be sure to take our time on this. Our main target is to get it right not just to get it done.

A. "Are you in a hurry?" B. "No; not at all. Take your time."

take one's word for it: Believe me; Trust me; I am telling you the truth.

I think we can take John's word for it. He has no reason to lie to us.

You can't miss this chance! This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that can take you to the next level. Take my word for it.

take (someone or something) for granted: to underestimate or undervalue someone or something; to not properly recognize or appreciate someone or something.

The boys take us for granted, but if we weren't here, this will starve to death!

You've got the most valuable services on earth; don't take them for granted.

take (someone or something) into (one's) heart: to love someone or an animal.

People in the village took the teacher into their hearts and took good care of him.

I only intended to foster the cat for a short while, but I couldn't help taking it into my heart.

take someone or something off someone's hands: to relieve someone of the burden or bother of someone or something.

You can leave with a clear conscience; I'll take the rest of your customers off your hands.

Will you please take these bags off my hands? I've been carrying them for more than two hours.

take (someone, something, or some place) by storm

1. to conquer, seize, or siege something or someone with a sudden and furious attack.

At midnight the raiders took the city by storm and wreaked havoc at every corner.

The cops smashed the door down and took the gang by storm.

2. To win or gain huge and widespread success or popularity very rapidly.

Our new product is making a hit and taking the country by storm.

The movie has taken your fans around the world by storm.

take (something) amiss: to consider something unhelpful, unappreciated, or offensive.

George took the salesman comment amiss and they had a big fight as a result.

A: "It's only a prank; I hope I didn't hurt anyone's feelings." B: "Don't worry; I don't think anyone took it amiss."

take (something) by the throat: to approach, confront, or deal with a problem or difficult situation directly and with clear, confident action.

I took the situation by the throat and confronted Steven about his indifference.

Your business is losing money day by day; it's time to take matters by the throat and do what it takes to correct the imbalances.

take (something) in tow: to pull or drag something.

They'll take the lorry in tow and bring it back to the garage.

take (something) into consideration/account: to pay attention to, think about, or focus on a particular detail when making a decision about something.

Make sure you take these statistics into consideration before you make any decision.

No need to worry; we have taken your reservations into account and replaced the motor.

take (something) on/upon (oneself)

1. To decide to do something even though it was not one's responsibility.

I took it on myself to pass around the guidelines before the meeting so that nobody can make any excuse.

2. To bear some burden, difficulty, or responsibility on one's own or for oneself.

Tom is taking too much trouble on himself after he accepted to the mediator.

I know you have your hands tied; so don't take other people's miseries on yourself.

Exercise (2)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. The boats came up, and asked if we wanted any assistance, because if we did, they could take it
2. Gerald was better qualified to take the government of the empire, in the present critical situation of affairs.
3. My book took Russia All students were buying it as a reference.
4. Sabien seemed to trust in Jeth and believe that he was more than capable of anything, so the rest of us took his
5. There are others here who can help, you know. Jan takes too much
6. A good architect the building's surroundings.
7. Instead of being passive, you must get out there and take life
8. You take all the love I give. I best give it to someone else.
9. He was such a cute little boy. We took him immediately.
10. Don't take this , it's all good-humoured teasing.

Answers;

1. (in tow) 2. (upon himself) 3. (by storm) 4. (word for it) 5. (on herself)
6. (takes into account) 7. (by the throat) 8. (for granted) 9. (into our hearts) 10. (amiss)

Dialogue (3)

Jim: Everyone **took a dig at** me in the meeting because I tried to save the company! If you think I'm going to **take it sitting down** any longer, then you're making a mistake!

Steve: I think you should avoid trouble currently! You just need to **take a break** or at least **take a back seat**.

Jim: In short; the new CEO is **taking a firm grip on** the business and steering it to the abyss.

Steve: Right! The company has **taken a bath** as the launch of the new product proved to be a complete failure.

Jim: They **took a beating** because shipping costs are **taking a bite out** of the client's profits. This's as plain as day but no one wants to listen to reason.

Steve: Enough of your untimely remarks and confrontations! The boss has already **taken a dim view** of your behavior.

Jim: Let him do his worst! My job in this firm is **taking a back seat** sooner or later! I'll **take a course** to speak German well then I'll quit.

Steve: Watch out! If your wife heard this nonsense, you would **take a beating**.

Jim; She's on the same wavelength as she's fed up with her seniors as well. We had our chance working here and now it's time to **take a crack at** life abroad.

Steve: Why did both of you **take a fancy to Germany** in particular?

Jim: We have some relatives who have been living there for a while and they are willing to help us to settle down.

take (something) sitting/lying down: to accept something unpleasant, unfortunate, or unjust without resistance, argument, or action.

I just found out my partner has been making deals behind my back for the last year, and I'm not about to take it sitting down!

take a backseat

1. To be given a lower priority.

We were going to renovate the house but the project took a back seat as we needed the money to fix the car.

2. To willingly take a less prominent role in some situation.

I prefer to take a back seat during today's seminar – Psychology is just over my head.

take a bath

1. Literally, to bathe in the bathtub.

I'm filling up the tub to take a bath. I'll give you a call after I'm done.

3. To experience or accumulate a large financial loss on a transaction or investment. Often followed by "on (something)."

Most stores re taking a bath on cameras because public interest has evaporated.

take a beating

1. To be thoroughly beaten or thrashed.

Schoolyard bullies used to take a beating from me not the other way round.

2. To be soundly defeated or bested; to lose; to suffer severe losses or setbacks.

Contrary to our expectations; our team took a beating from New Zealand.

The stock market took a beating after the period of political instability.

take a bite out of (something): to reduce something by eliminating, completing, or removing part of it.

The police are encouraging citizens to take a bite out of crime by reporting suspicious activity.

take a break: to stop doing something for a short period of time in order to rest.

You guys move ahead and I'll catch you up in a few minutes; I need to take a break.

take a course (in something): to enroll in, attend an academic course (in some topic).

You don't have to take a course to learn how to fight – I'll make you a master in a few days.

take a crack at (something): to attempt (to do); to take a turn trying (to do) something.

You had your chance blowing out the candles; now let your sister take a crack at it.

take a dig at (someone or something): to make a mocking, sarcastic, or insulting remark, gibe, or criticism at someone's or something's expense.

Why don't you prepare the ingredients in advance? No wonder they are taking a dig at your dishes.

take a dim/poor view (of someone or something): to view (something) unfavorably.

The professor has taken a dim view of the research. I don't think she will approve it.

So far the boss has taken a dim view of the new intern.

take a fancy to (someone or something): to have or develop a fondness for or inclination toward something or someone; to be attracted to someone or something.

I believe in love at first sight! I took a fancy to my wife the moment I spotted her.

take a firm grip on: to gain or exercise tight control over someone or something.

You need to take a firm grip on this new recruit. He's got talent, sure, but he's reckless!

Exercise (3)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. She seemed to take a to a green patch further into the field and began to amble slowly towards it.
2. First a corn snake bites the prey in order to take a, then it quickly wraps one or more coils of its body around the victim.
3. He said he didn't know how to swim but would take a at it.
4. The fans went wild because Liverpool was taking a for the first time in their history.
5. Finally, Bryant decided to take a and let his son run the company.
6. The company insisted there would be no exemptions and made clear that it would take a of suppliers who did not comply.
7. He agrees energy prices have taken a of the workers' paychecks.
8. She's taking a at her boyfriend again. How long can they stay together?
9. Acting without doing enough research is a sure recipe to take a and to go out of business.
10. At school the next day I hurt so much I could hardly bear to stay calm as I refused to take the insult

Answers;

1. *fancy* 2. *firm grip* 3. *crack* 4. *beating* 5. *back seat* 6. *dim view* 7. *bite out* 8. *dig* 9. *bath* 10. *sitting down*

Dialogue (4)

Sarah: Most parents try to **steer a middle course** between imposing very strict discipline and letting their kids run wild.

Alice: Yeah; that makes sense! Moreover, kids had better do things their way and not **to take a leaf out of anyone's book**! Most kids are unfortunately copycats; most of the time they end up smoking or taking drugs just because their friends are doing likewise!

Sarah: Oh! **That's really hard to take** when we see our kids are being misled in front of us! Although schools **take a firm line on** tobacco, most students are smoking. Isn't that disappointing?

Alice: Yes; it is. **Take a look at** this survey. I bet it will **take a load off your mind**.

Sarah: The proportion of teenage smokers has dropped by 3%. That's encouraging! Let's shift the gears then; Did you hear what happened to David?

Alice: No clue! I don't like to hear anything about him anyway! He's such a double-crosser who is skillful at **taking people for a ride**.

Sarah: Not anymore! His business **took a nosedive** after he was caught selling smuggled items.

Alice: That serves him right! The other day he sold me a lotion and he swore that it had been original. Then I **took him at his word** and tried it but the lotion turned out to be made in China!

Sarah: The judge may sentence him three years in prison.

Alice: Nice! **Let justice take its course**. But some judges are on the take these days. I'm afraid he would bribe them and get away with it.

Sarah: I don't think so! I know his judge very well! He's a straightforward man who doesn't even **take a joke** let alone bribes.

take a firm stand (on/against something): resolute and refuse to change your opinion.

The headmaster took a firm stand against drugs in the school.

The authorities are taking a firm stand on human traffickers.

take a leaf /a page out of someone's book: to behave in a way that someone else would.

Perhaps I should take a leaf out of your book and start shouting at her the moment she dares to open her mouth.

take a load off (one's) mind: to relieve one's stress or worry; to comfort or calm one.

Thanks for the clarification. That takes a load off my mind.

take a look (at someone or something): to glance or look at someone or something.

Wow, take a look at that gorgeous girl! She has taken my fancy the moment I spotted her.

Can I take a look at this report before you send it?

take/steer a middle course: to find a solution or take a position that is acceptable for two different or opposing sides.

Taking the middle course can enable us to see the point in different points of view.

It was proper to take a middle course, and to let the capital take its proper destination equally between them.

take a nosedive: of a plan, to go into a sudden fall. Of a person, to fall toward the ground; to decline in physical, emotional health or stability; to decline in value.

Everyone went into a panic when we started taking a nosedive, but the skilled pilot managed to regain control of the plane and landed it safely.

I was so distracted by the girl that I tripped and took a nosedive right in front of her.

Jim has held out bravely in his fight against cancer, but I'm afraid he's taken a nosedive recently.

Shares in the company are taking a nosedive ever since news of the tax scandal went public.

(not to) take a joke: to be able to remain calm in response to good-natured teasing.

You have to be able to take a joke to work with some of the pranksters in our office.

hard to take: difficult to accept or endure, often due to being emotionally painful.

I find his political views a little hard to take.

The losses were hard to take, but the gains were great also.

on the take: in receipt of bribes or income from illegal avenues.

Clint Eastwood is usually threatened with dismissal in his detective movies, sometimes because his immediate superior is on the take.

take its course: to progress along something's ordinary or natural course of progression and conclude at its normal pace. (Used especially in reference to illness and disease.)

When the dog responded so badly to the treatment, we decided to let nature take its course.

It would be best to keep our mouths shut and let justice take its course.

take (one) at (one's) word: to accept or believe what one says without investigating.

He said I could stay at his house any time, so I took him at his word.

She said that she wouldn't join us and I took her at her word.

take someone for a ride

1. Lit. to carry someone about, usually for recreation, in a car, plane, boat, etc.

Would you take us for a ride? We need some change of air.

2. Fig. to deceive someone.

This contract is worthless; you've been taken for a ride!

The gang leader decided that the informer must be taken for a ride.

Exercise (4)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. You have to be able to take a to work with some of the pranksters in our office.
2. He could be kept alive artificially, but I think it would be kinder to let nature take its
3. Because Dave had already established his credibility with the department managers, they were willing to take him at his
4. His acting career took a and he turned to drink for solace.
5. I wish I could take them for a in my little airplane and show how beautiful the world can look.
6. Providing the income you will need after you stop work can take a load
7. The government decided to take a firm on admitting more foreigners to do business in the country.
8. Harry's rudeness to everyone was becoming to take.
9. Why don't you take a leaf out of Anne's and have your hair cut shorter?
10. I try to steer a middle between keeping control of the project and giving responsibility to others.

Answers;

1. *joke* 2. *course* 3. *word* 4. *nosedive* 5. *ride* 6. *off your mind* 7. *stand* 8. *hard* 9. *book* 10. *course*

Dialogue (5)

David: I've learned to **take work more lightly** in recent years. There are just more important things to worry about.

Tom: Way to go! I guess it's time for me to follow your lead and **take a chill pill**. I've been **taking things seriously** for a long while and this weighs me down.

David: Not only this but these days I'm **taking naps** in the afternoon and spending more time with the kids. Above all; I'm **taking teasing** in good part. No more temper tantrums!

Tom: Wow! You're **taking my breath away!** What a radical change! It means that gone are the days when you used to **take out your frustrations on** everyone around you.

David: Exactly! Now, I'm **taking my staff into my confidence** and delegating most of the tasks. Previously; I used to be a control freak and that took a toll on me.

Tom: Yeah; unless we **take a bite of the reality sandwich**, we'll end up losing control of everything including our health.

David: How about the lawsuit against your partner? Are you still willing to **take it further?**

Tom: That bastard took me for a ride! Yeah; I must **take a chance**. His lawyer offered a monetary settlement but I have my doubts. Yesterday I saw someone going around the property and **taking pictures** but I **took a deep breath** and tried not to say a word as I was sure that was an attempt to scare me.

David: I heard that your brother Mike threatened to kill him but **I took that rumor with a grain of salt** as he always exaggerated about several things.

Tom: Yeah; No worries! Mike is short-tempered but he has a heart of gold.

take (one's) breath away: to cause someone to feel intense pleasant astonishment.

We came upon a great bridge, so high and wide that it took my breath away.

take (someone or something) seriously: to treat, consider, or approach someone or something with the seriousness or importance that it or they deserve.

People who took football too seriously aroused deep loathing in me.

take (someone) into (one's) confidence: to tell someone information with the understanding that they will not reveal what was said.

He is forever telling us what he will do and why, for ever taking us into his confidence.

take (something) further: to advance an action, argument, or complaint to a higher level or more serious degree.

If you want to take it further, you should consult an attorney.

take (something) in good part: to not be hurt or offended by something; to receive, consider, or regard something amiably or good naturedly.

We often tease John about his bald head but he takes it in good part.

In private she would yell and scream at us for being lazy and ill-mannered, which we took in good part, knowing she was right.

take (something) lightly: to regard something without much seriousness.

Children's fears should never be taken lightly.

I hope you aren't taking these allegations lightly—they could mean a life in prison!

take (something) out on (someone or something): to treat someone badly because you are upset or angry, even if they have done nothing wrong.

I know you've had a bad day, but there's no need to take it out on me!

He's been taking his frustrations out on his coworkers lately.

take (something) with a grain/ a pinch of salt: to consider or evaluate something as may not be completely true or accurate, due to the unreliability of the source.

You have to take everything she says with a pinch of salt, she does tend to exaggerate.

take a bite of the reality sandwich: to recognize and address certain delusions, flaws, or misconceptions regarding a particular situation or task at hand.

Do you think this product will make a hit? you really need to take a bite of the reality sandwich.

take a breath: to inhale and then exhale.

I think we all need to stop the arguments, take a deep breath, and remember why we came here.

If you're in deep water, take a breath, lie on your back and float.

take a chance/ a risk: to try something where failure or bad fortune is likely.

I won't take a chance on a July holiday in Britain — it always rains.

I'm not reckless, but I don't mind taking a risk now and then.

take a chill pill: to calm down; to stop being angry, anxious, fearful, etc.

Take a chill pill and stop yelling; you're freaking everybody out.

Take a chill pill, will you? Being aggressive is never good; listen to your gut and the chill out.

take a nap: to sleep for a short period of time in the middle of the day.

Why don't you take a nap to rest up for the party?

take a picture (of someone/something): to take a photograph of someone or something.

Keep the camera steady while you take a picture.

Keep still - don't move. I'll take a picture of you.

Exercise (5)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. The Profit boss takes his secretary into his; seeks her opinion; takes her advice.
2. You may recline your seat a little when you want to take a quick
.....
3. Hi there, I work for a marketing agency hired by the nightclub. Do you mind if I take a?
4. Don't take what she said she was only teasing.
5. Francesca's neck muscles tensed every time she took a and her nostrils dilated.
6. Hence, they settled upon the splitting idea, and might yet take it
.....
7. Every kiss that Jay gives me is like the first kiss, but this one took my It was so sensuous and loving.
8. So, just as the young people say, you have to learn to “take a” and allow other people to help you.
9. You must make a choice to take a or your life will never change.
10. Course Moira always has had a vivid imagination; you have to take what she says with a

Answers;

1. *confidence* 2. *nap* 3. *picture* 4. *seriously* 5. *breath* 6. *further* 7. *breath away* 8. *chill pill* 9. *chance* 10. *pinch of salt*

Dialogue (6)

Fred: Did you hear? Janice got herself pregnant.

Jill: Well, she didn't do it all by herself. **Takes two to tango**, you know.

Fred: After an afternoon of **give-and-take**, she finally made a confession! It turned out that got married in secret to a police officer and she is making birth in two months **give or take** a day or two.

Jill: **Give or take** the occasional arguments, Janice got along pretty well with everyone around! What made her take such a decision?

Fred: Probably she thought that marriage would **take her mind off** her mother's death. She was a wreck after that incident!

Jill: Yeah! That makes sense! I **take my hat off to** her for her courage! Personally; I don't have the guts to take such a step.

Fred: To cap it all, her father was **taken to court** after failing to pay the car installments! As they say it doesn't rain it pours.

Jill: Seriously! I'm gonna make a call to my lawyer to make him **take her under his wing** right away. We can't just stand by and watch them falling apart.

Fred: Way to go! You know what? This family has been **taking life as it comes** oblivious to any dangers or consequences to their reckless acts. Obviously; they are used to **taking free rides** as their son supported them endlessly, but these days they are no longer hearing from him.

Jill: That's why Janice **has taken matters into her hands** and decided to get married! She must have grown fed up!

Fred: Yeah! When we grow up, we start to cast doubt on what we used to **take us as gospel**. That's part of why teenagers are so rebellious, because they're just starting to realize their parents' fallibility.

Jill: You have to be very careful about what you say when you see her. She is in a miserable condition and **may take anything you say out of context**. Never say a word about her marriage or the like!

Fred: Yeah! I know her she **takes** everybody's comments **personally**.

give-and-take: a lot of negotiating and bargaining.

Not that I don't admire roaring entertainers, but a talk show requires some give and take, some exchange.

give or take

1. Approximately; the exact number may be above or below the estimated amount.

It'll take about three weeks, give or take a day or so.

2. Aside from.

Give or take the occasional argument, my sister and I get along pretty well.

takes two to tango: some things cannot happen by one person acting alone.
She may want to argue, but it takes two to tango and I won't stoop to her level.

take (one's) hat off to (someone or something): to praise, salute, congratulate, or pay tribute to someone or something.

Mick's whole purpose in life was to go that extra mile and I had to take my hat off to him.

take/keep (one's) mind off (something): to stop or to cause one to stop thinking about something, typically a worry or concern.

The doctor managed to take the patient's mind off the symptoms initially.

take (someone or something) to court: to sue or initiate legal proceedings against. To present a case against. To take an action against. To bring a lawsuit.

Corrupt insiders should be taken to court, not thrown aside by presidents as electoral bargaining chips.

take (someone) under (one's) wing: to act as someone's guardian, protector, or mentor, especially someone who is vulnerable or in need of help, protection, or instruction.

Her boss took her under his wing after fully realizing her potential.

take (something) as gospel: to believe that something is absolutely true without any hesitation or reservations.

But some people take those quotes as gospel, and that can lead to misinformation and misunderstanding.

take (something) as it comes: to deal with or manage something as it occurs, as opposed to planning for it beforehand.

We take each year as it comes and we always plan for me to run a personal best every season.

take (something) hard: to be affected by something in a profoundly negative way.

I think Samantha took the news pretty hard, so you might want to give her a bit of space right now.

take (something) into (one's) own hands: to deal with, manage, or do something oneself, especially after having relied on others to do it.

As the police failed to catch her son's murderer, she decided to take matters into her own hands.

take (something) out of context: to misrepresent the meaning of an utterance, an action, or a report thereof by omitting or altering the original context.

By confusing unrelated issues and taking information out of context, you do readers a great disservice.

take (something) personally: to be offended, upset, or negatively affected by something at a personal level; to consider something as being a personal attack against oneself.

I was talking about people having smelly socks, and I'm afraid Mike took it personally.

take/get a free ride: to take some benefit, advantage, or special treatment without earning it or paying for it.

They are encouraging all workers to join the union rather than just taking a free ride on those who do join.

Exercise (6)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. I asked you to help, and when you refused, I took matters into my
2. After I survived the accident, I've learned to take each day as it
3. Such mistakes are easily made; the point is that one should not take any historical document as
4. He understood that the boy had had little formal education until Eduard took him under his
5. The newspaper, or more specifically, the editor, was taken to for publishing the photographs.
6. Take your off the loss by engrossing yourself in a good book.
7. If the interview goes well there should be a reasonable amount of ..
..... of information throughout.
8. an hour or so, we should be in Beijing in about twelve hours.
9. No individual could exercise the liberty to assemble, because it requires more than one person to assemble, just as it takes two to
10. Some people are able to do this effortlessly and I take my off to them.

Answers;

1. own hands 2. comes 3. gospel 4. wing 5. court 6. mind 7. give and take
8. Give or take 9. tango 10. hat

Dialogue (7)

Jim: How long does it take until these pills **take effect**? My back is killing me!

Charley: It seems like things are **taking a turn for the worse**. Aren't they?

Jim: I should **take a shot** at acupuncture treatment - I can't put up with this pain any longer.

Charley: As long as you're **taking issue** with your doctor and his useless methods, go and see an acupuncturist! You should **take control of your** health immediately. Why is the delay?

Jim: I'm **taking heed** of and following the doctor's instructions to the letter but I don't see any progress! I'm dying to get better! I'd love to **take a long walk** up in the mountains. Lying on my back all the time long **is taking its toll** not only on me physically but depleting my spirits!

Charles: **Take it easy on yourself!** Just keep trying and things will **take a new turn** sooner or later. Who knows? One day you may consider **taking a warrant out** against your doctor!

Jim: Initially; my doctor must **take a walk!** Now let's make a call to an acupuncturist to **take me in** as soon as possible.

Charles: Alright then! I have to **take a flight!** Tomorrow I have a test and there's a lot to **take in**.

take a new turn: to make or begin a sudden change in direction, course, or progress.

Perhaps as a result of his unpopularity, speculation about him has taken a new turn.

take a shot at: to attempt or try something.

Diving is a bit scary, but I'm willing to take a shot at it.

Shaw took a shot at the goal from the halfway line, but missed.

take a walk

1. Literally, to go on a walk.

Though always on a tight time budget, he asked me out of the blue to take a walk with him.

2. By extension, to get out of here; to go away; to get lost. Usually used as an imperative.

Take a walk, Jerry! I'm sick of your foolishness.

take a turn for the better: to improve in condition, especially quickly or suddenly.

Your career is bound to take a turn for the better as soon as you're willing to go the extra mile.

take a turn for the worse: to worsen, often quickly or suddenly.

After hearing that horrible news, my day took a turn for the worse.

take a warrant out: to file a judicial writ for some legal action to be taken, usually the arrest or detention of someone.

The woman took a warrant out to have her ex-husband arrested, claiming that he had violated the terms of his restraining order.

take a/its toll: to have a cumulative negative effect on someone or something.

All this pressure is taking a toll on my health.

The expansion of production to meet rising domestic demand, has taken a toll on the environment.

take control (of someone or something): to gain, assume, or exercise the ability or authority to manage, direct, or influence something.

Students are supposed to take control of learning, rather than just depending on the teacher.

take effect: to begin to work or become effective.

The dentist gave me an injection that took effect almost immediately, and I didn't feel a thing.

The change of ownership took effect on November 3.

take flight: to flee or run away (from someone or something).

The would-be burglars took flight as soon as they heard the police sirens.

take heed (of someone or something): to pay close attention to and consider carefully.

Small businesses should take heed of the warnings contained in the Chancellor's speech.

take in

1. To absorb and comprehend some information.

I wasn't able to take every detail in, but I got the gist of it.

2. To admit someone/an animal into one's care/ employment.

My aunt took in my brother and me when our parents died.

My wife has a bad habit of taking in stray dogs.

take issue: to strongly disagree with or take offense at something.

If that's what you're saying, then yes, I take issue.

take it easy on (someone or something):

1. to treat someone gently or leniently.

Take it easy on Charles; he's so touchy.

2. To use or consume only a small amount of something.

A: Take it easy on the chips. Will you? The film has just started!

Exercise (7)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. His son is being trained to take of the family business.
2. Alexander made a charge against Northwick for the theft, took a out against him, and had him arrested.
3. Take of enemies reconciled and of meat twice boiled.
4. After the surgery, Ed's health took a for the worse when he developed an infection.
5. Close your eyes, relax, stretch, or take a around the block.
6. And if it wants to have a big mobile business it should take a at making its own handset.
7. During the first year after the marketing strategy took, the number of park visitors jumped by 10 percent.
8. My life really took a new when I was offered a job in India.
9. During these last two weeks of her six-week hospital stay, she seemed to take a for the better everyone noticed
10. Take it the milk—that's all we've got till Monday.

Answers;

- 1. control 2. warrant 3. heed 4. turn 5. walk 6. shot 7. effect 8. turn 9. turn 10. easy on*

Dialogue (8)

Sam: I know your comments were made completely in jest, but I couldn't help **taking offense at** them.

Derek: That's why you **took off** in the other direction when you saw me. Come on; you can't be so edgy! I mean it doesn't make sense to let your sensitivity **take precedence over** your relationships.

Sam: It all started in my childhood – I used to make scenes to make my mother **take note of** me and things grew out of control! I'm working on it but it's no simple matter to get rid of your habits overnight!

Derek: How come then will you **take the reins** of your father's business with this attitude? You're bound to make a mess of the whole thing. Without your dad's great attitude that business would have never **taken off**.

Sam: **Take some pity on** me for heaven's sake! I know you're concerned about me but I can't help but go on the defensive when I get irritated .

Derek: But you're digging your own grave! You must **take possession of** your emotions man! I suggest you go to seminars that handle these issues and **take useful notes** to try to implement what you learn. Bit by bit new concepts and thoughts will **take root** which will enable you to take control of your emotions.

Sam: Yeah; I must **take courage** - this is worth taking a shot at! Speaking of courage; I got a phone call from Jason. Actually, I was **taken aback** when he said that they got lost in the middle of nowhere and **took refuge in** a small hut nearby.

Derek: You don't say! Jason will never **take a step back** and consider taking life seriously! He's no longer a teenager! I warned him over and over again not to go on a vacation to the prairies along with his wife by themselves but he **took no notice**. He's as stubborn as a mule.

Sam: How about his confrontations with his boss! He just likes to pick up fights claiming that his boss **takes sides**.

Derek: People like Jason normally learn things the hard way!

take note/notice (of someone or something): to become aware of, remember, focus on, or pay attention to someone or something.
When you recognize that you're complaining, stop and take notice of it.
We hope that manufacturers will take note of the findings to optimize their products.

take notes: to record important details (by writing or typing them).
The monitors were assigned to take notes for the meeting.

Take off

1. If an aircraft, bird, or insect takes off, it leaves the ground and begins to fly:
The plane took off at 8.30 a.m.
2. to start to be successful or popular:
Her singing career had just begun to take off.
3. to suddenly leave somewhere, usually without telling anyone that you are going:
When he saw me, he took off in the other direction.
4. to remove one's shoes or clothes.
She took off her overcoat and hanged it on the hook.

take offense (at something): to be/feel insulted, offended, or humiliated by something.

He didn't seem to take offence at my lack of enthusiasm for his idea.

take the reins: to take or assume control (of something).
It may be time for someone else to take the reins and let you step back permanently.

take pity on (someone or something): to treat someone or something kindly due to feeling sympathy or compassion toward them because of their misfortune or suffering.

Finally, a truck driver took pity on us and gave us a ride.

take possession (of something): to gain or assume ownership or custody of something.

Immediately, however, a deadly languor took possession of her and she fell into a heavy sleep.

The widow, on the death of her husband, takes possession of his property.

take precedence over (someone/something): to take priority over someone/something.

National defense must take precedence over all other questions.

Have as much fun as possible at college, but don't let it take precedence over work.

take refuge in (something or some place): to seek protection or shelter from some source of danger or hardship in something or some place.

When I am sad, I take refuge in remembering happier times.

In the wild, a barn owl would take refuge in a barn and would manage to catch mice there.

take root: to become settled, established, or in control with great power or tenacity.

Panic took root as soon as the gunshot was heard.

take sides: to choose a person/party to support or agree with in an argument.

I wasn't interested enough in the argument to take sides one way or the other.

take some nerve/courage (to do something): to require a great amount of courage, resolve, or integrity (to do something).

Your business will never take off unless you take courage to face setbacks.

take a step back: to withdraw or remove oneself from something, in order to consider it from a broader or more objective perspective.

It was time to take a step back and slow things down.

I want to take a step back now and clarify the most important point.

take (one) aback: to startle, astonish, shock, or disconcert one.

She was taken aback by her son's strong opposition to her remarriage.

I was completely taken aback by her request.

Exercise (8)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. The poor take in slums on the city outskirts, constructing shelters from corrugated iron and other scrap material.
2. The plane took, leaving London behind in a blue-grey dawn.
3. She had to learn that her wishes did not take over other people's needs.
4. As the thought took, a stinging cold shiver traversed his body.
5. If you can learn to stop meddling and start leading, then both you and the business can start to take
6. He rushed to rescue the kitten and immediately took on the injured animal.
7. Take during the consultation as the final written report is very concise.
8. He gave me the backbone to take the and be assertive and a little more aggressive.
9. He described her as a woman who is temperamental and quick to take
10. Please take of our signature, and regard no others as genuine.

Answers;

1. *refuge* 2. *off* 3. *precedence* 4. *root* 5. *off* 6. *pity* 7. *notes* 8. *reins* 9. *offence* 10. *note*

Dialogue (9)

Alice: Time to **take a vacation**. You've been burning the candle at both ends for way too long now.

David: Yeah; but you know what? The **boss took me aside** and told me that my performance had not been satisfactory lately.

Alice: Did he? But as far as I know you're making endless efforts to get the work done! How come? Isn't he **taking advantage of**?

David: Not exactly! Everybody in there is **taking my part**. Anyway! **I'm taking solace in** the fact that I would be leaving the job in just a few short months.

Alice: If I were you, I'd **take all the useful data along** and teach him a lesson.

David: No way! **Taking revenge** will never give you a sense of peace or closure—you'll remain just as angry as before. All I care about is **taking part** in the competition in June. Let him do his worst in the remaining few months.

Alice: You **take after** my mother to a large extent – she never allowed resentment to **take possession of** her heart or mind. I **take pride in** both of you.

David: How about you? What is **taking** your license **forever for**?

Alice: That's a bummer! But I guess that's a blessing in disguise anyway! It takes months for my plan to **take shape**. I can't go into business on my own because I don't want to be **taken hostage by the shop**. Someone ought to share the workload.

David: Good point! As they say a good beginning makes a good ending. If you don't take the right steps, everyone is gonna **take aim at** you.

take advantage of (someone or something)

1. to make use of.

Take advantage of the opportunities coming your way in a couple of months.

2. to exploit someone or something for one's own purpose, gain, or agenda.

You need to be firm with her or she'll try to take advantage of you.

take after (one): to resemble one, as in appearance, behavior, attitude, etc.

Try to take after your parents who are honest and hardworking people.

People usually say I take after my father on a large scale.

take aim (at someone or something)

1. to aim one's projectile weapon at someone or something.

The sniper took aim and fired off a single shot, killing the suspect instantly.

2. to direct severe criticism or scorn at someone or something.

You really need to double-check your sources before you take aim like that in the future.

take along: to bring something or someone with one on a trip or to a location.

We had to wait in the lobby for a couple hours, so I'm glad I decided to take my book along.

Can I take along my boyfriend? He's very interested in the lecture topic.

take (one) aside: to move one apart from other people to speak with them privately.

Connell took him aside, urging him to come over to the house for a private talk.

take forever/ages: to take a very long time.

Why is it taking forever for our food to come out? Did they forget about us?

I hate dealing with the bank over the phone. It takes ages to get through to the right person.

take/hold (someone) hostage: to hold people captive and threaten violence to them so that another party will agree to meet some demand.

He was taken hostage while on his first foreign assignment as a television journalist.

take one's medicine/ lumps (bite the bullet): to accept the consequences or the bad fortune that one deserves. (Alludes to having to take unpleasant-tasting medicine.)

Our team took its lumps this season, but still finished with a winning record.

take part

1. to share or participate in something. Often followed by "in (something)."
I heard it was a great discussion. Did you take part?

2. to support or side with someone in an argument. In this usage, a noun or pronoun is typically used between "take" and "part."

You always take your wife's part, even if you don't agree with her!

take pride (in someone or something): to take satisfaction in, be proud of.
We take pride in offering you the highest standards.

take revenge (against/on someone or something): to retaliate (against someone else) for a wrong done to oneself; to seek or exact revenge (against someone).

The attacks in those towns were conducted to take revenge against the Chinese government.

take shape: of an idea, plan, concept, argument, etc., to become or begin to be clear, discernible, organized, or understandable.

After months of work, the new book is gradually taking shape.

During the sixteenth century the organisation and conduct of modern schooling took shape around a new set of terms.

take/find solace in (something): to be comforted or consoled by something.
I found solace in writing when my father died three years ago.

take/ go on a vacation: to stop working for some period of time and spend that time for one's leisure or pleasure, especially at some other place.

They were always too busy to take a vacation let alone go to a lake.

Exercise (9)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Much as we perform better with several short cycles of rest during the day and an extended period of sleep every night, so we are more productive when we regularly take
2. He took on his employers by setting fire to the factory.
3. Unable to travel, he found/took some in reading about other people's journeys abroad.
4. While we were conducting our fieldwork, however, we came to realize that a process was taking
5. As a nation we may take in the fact that we are softhearted.
6. She was a practiced swindler and took of the old man's confiding nature.
7. Six theatre companies have been selected to take in this year's festival.
8. Three children were taken during the bank robbery.
9. The photographers stormed the railing and took like a starved infantry picking off fish from a bridge. It took forever to clean up after the party.
10. She took of the children's absence to tidy their rooms. The two boys were like their father in character, but Louise took after her mother.

Answers;

1. vacations 2. revenge 3. solace 4. shape 5. pride 6. advantage 7. part 8. hostage 9. aim 10. advantage

Dialogue (10)

Carl: Make sure you **take attendance** as soon as the bell rings, because it must be noted if a student is late.

Matt: Obviously; it's no easy matter to **take charge of** three classes at a time. I can't handle the pressure on my own. I could have asked Jeff to handle the attendance but it's hard to **take him at face value** when he's been caught lying in the past.

Carl: You're doing Jeff an injustice. He's really a bright and dependable boy. You can't come to this conclusion just because he lied previously. All boys tell lies when they are embarrassed.

Matt: Good point! Then I'll let him **take over** the attendance taking again. Any news about the bank loan?

Carl: The response came early this morning. They say that for us to be able **to take out a loan** and implement the repairs and upgrades, we have to provide them with a detailed description of these works. I'll call for a meeting after school hours to make a final decision before **taking any action**.

Matt: Can we **take action** against the landlord if she refused to extend the term of the rental contract of the school building?

Carl: This matter is going to be on the table as well. In my opinion she would be thankful if we renovated the building. But we have to consult her anyway. I **take comfort** in the fact that her sons are our students and she can't risk interrupting their education.

Matt: I'm dying to find out how she could make all this fortune! I guess she will **take this secret to her grave**. Anyway! We have to expedite the revocation process and install the emergency stairs very soon. Who know? The inspectors may appear out of the blue at any time!

Carl: They won't make a fuss over it if we point out to them that the students can **take cover** in the basement in times of emergency. The building is only three stairs after all.

Matt: Speaking of the basement; we had better **take inventory of** the available stationery.

Carl: All I care about is the loan thing right now! If the bank drags its feet, I have to **take the gloves off this** time.

Matt: You **deserve credit** for the efforts you're making to make this school a success.

Carl: As soon as these issues are solved, **I'm taking a long leave** to take a long rest and clear my head. These days I'm **taking an interest in**

photography; I will give it a shot.

take action

1. To act; to do something.

We're not going to take action just yet. We need to determine the best way to deal with this.

2. To initiate a legal proceeding, typically a lawsuit.

Let it be known that my client will take action against any publication that prints these lies.

take an interest in (someone or something): to be or become concerned with, curious about, or interested in someone or something.

Jane began to take interest in arts while she was in university.

take (someone or something) at face value: to accept someone or something just as it appears; to believe that the way things appear is the way they really are.

Mary took his stories at face value and did not know he was joking.

take attendance: to make a record of persons attending something.

The inspector wanted to be assured that the teachers took the attendance of children seriously.

take care of (someone or something)

1. To look after, assume responsibility for, or care for someone or something.

Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.

2. To murder someone or dispose of something.

Three of his best soldiers were dispatched to take care of the thugs.

take charge/responsibility: to take authority, or control over (someone or something), especially after having not done so initially.

His boss asked him to take charge of the office for a few days while she was away.

take comfort in (something): to be soothed or calmed by something.

He took comfort in the thought that Nina had always appeared from somewhere whenever there was a need to take care of things.

take cover: to hide behind something to protect oneself from some airborne danger, especially gunfire or missiles.

Peter quickly loaded his rifle as they ran into the warehouse and took cover behind crates.

The three he ordered to stay behind took cover on three separate air conditioning units.

take credit (for something): to receive recognition, praise, or approval for something.

Charles is straightforward and down-to-earth. He would not boast or take credit for others' work.

take the gloves off: to begin to behave in a more hostile or tenacious way.

They argued calmly for a while and then they took the gloves off.

take inventory: to count and record an itemized list of items in one's inventory.

After unpacking, the first thing to do is to take inventory of all the parts.

take (something) to the grave: to not reveal or share some secret until the day one dies.

She died before making any confession and took the answer of the mystery to the grave.

take (a) leave: to take an extended, authorized absence from some thing or place.

Men who took a leave for a child or parent's illness were evaluated more negatively than women who took leave for the same reason.

take out a loan: to receive a loan of money from creditors or a financial institution.

If you take out a loan from the company you have to pay it back within two years.

take over

1. To assume command, control, or responsibility.

Kalan called his assistant, Hashim, to take over while he went out.

2. To conquer/ dominate or control (something).

Gibraltar was taken over by Spain in 1462.

Exercise (10)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. She said my birth parents will always take in knowing they had made the right decision.
2. I suggested that it would have a barcode scanner and that, as I put items in the fridge, it would automatically take
3. Maybe it's time to take the off, show them teeth and deal with them the same way they've been dealing with us.
4. Many times you will come across people who want to give you advice so that they can take the for helping you.
5. Active adults had to take of both their elderly relatives and their children.
6. Not only do I take in English, but I am fond of music as well, especially classical music.
7. There are lots of companies who will take of this whole operation, including the printing and fixing of the labels.
8. The statistics mentioned by the authorities could not be accepted/taken at
9. I keep seeing myself as the skinny kid with heavy braces and crutches who sat on the sidelines and took in gym class.
10. The law stipulates that parents may take a until the child becomes 1 year old and this may be extended

Answers;

1. *comfort* 2. *inventory* 3. *gloves* 4. *credit* 5. *care* 6. *interest* 7. *charge* 8. *face value* 9. *attendance* 10. *leave*

Dialogue (11)

Julie: Why are you back so quickly? You were supposed to be helping your cousins!

Fred: They were handling the situation so deftly on their own that I felt like I was just **taking up space**. I'm truly starving and burned out. I'll take a painkiller to **take the edge off**.

Julie: Alright! **Take the load off** your feet for a while, and I'll fix dinner?

Fred: You **took the words off my mouth**. Hot soup will hit the spot. That's very kind of you.

Julie: Are they taking up residence or it's only a short stay?

Fred: As far as I know they are leaving very soon because their daughter is giving birth in a few days. They are planning to stay with her so that they **take turns** looking after her house. She has none to stand by her side other than her brother after her husbands' death.

Julie: Poor Alice! She used to be very optimistic and lively. She was going to **take up** architecture because she loved designing. I bet she could have **taken the lead** in that field but everything went wrong.

Fred: That's how we fall in love and **swallow the bait**!

Julie: Now I see why your cousins sent you home! You were making some remarks like these. Weren't you?

Fred: You really don't **take a joke**. Do you? I will **take the high road** for a while. Anyway! I am thinking about **taking a few day s off** work to fix the roof. What do you say?

Julie: Yeah; you have to **take the bull by the horns** before it's too late. Winter is just around the corner.

Fred: Actually, George was going to **take the initiative** to fix it but I didn't want to put him out. His boss is very tough especially after the media **took the lid off their** illegal sales scandal.

Julie: Honestly; I've seen so many ballbusters in my life, but George's boss **takes the cake**.

take/ swallow the bait: to respond to someone's actions or words in the way that they intended. Likened to a fish attempting to eat the bait on a hook.

The country was given military help by its neighbours and it swallowed the bait without realizing how dependent it would become on its neighbours in the future.

take the edge off (something): to make something less intense, severe, or unpleasant.

School and work have me stressed out; some entertainment would take the edge off.

It's quite a while before dinner; here this apple will take the edge off your hunger.

take the lead: to become the leader, to advance into first place.

The Penguins took the lead early in the first with a goal by Jamie Oleksiak.

I have meetings all day, so please take the lead on this project, Joan.

National companies failed to take the lead in developing alternative energy sources.

take the words out of (one's) mouth: to unknowingly say what someone else is thinking or about to say.

When you said "disgusting," you took the words right out of my mouth!

take turns: to alternate doing something; one person or thing after another.

It helps if we take turns reading aloud with our child.

The male and female birds take turns in sitting on the eggs.

take up space

1. to fill or occupy a certain amount of volume.

I really like this table, but I think it will take up too much space in the kitchen.

2. To be completely useless; that is, to do nothing but occupy space.

Bill, quit taking up space and help me out here!

take time off: to be away from work, school, or other responsibilities.

He spun some tale about needing to take time off work because his mother was ill.

take the bull by the horns: to approach, confront, or deal with a problem or difficult situation directly and with clear, confident action.

We decided to take the bull by the horns and go to court, instead of paying the fine.

take the lid off (something): to expose some secret to the public, often something scandalous, unpleasant, or deceptive.

This is an article that takes the lid off the world of professional gambling.

take up residence in (some place): to settle into some location or make it one's home.

*They were not able to take up residence in their new home until the spring.
A commuter who takes up residence in the U.S. loses his commuter status.*

take the cake: to be the worst /best in a series of negative actions.

*He by no means fails to impress us together with his witty tackle issues
however his current tweet actually took the cake.*

I've heard some pretty dumb ideas, but that takes the cake!

take the initiative: to instigate some action, task, or plan; to be the first to act.

They need to learn how to prioritize responsibilities, take initiative and work independently.

The captain took the initiative and led the soldiers out of the danger area.

take the high road: to choose the most noble, ethical, or diplomatic course or method, especially after or in the face of negativity or ill treatment.

As a father, the best advice I could ever give would be to take the high road in life, and you will be able to build trusting relationships.

take the load off (one's feet): to sit down and rest one's feet; to relax.

Ah, you've finally arrived! Come on in and take the load off your feet.

take up: to begin doing something as a habit, hobby, pastime, or steady practice.

My husband has taken up gardening now that he's retired.

I'm taking up cycling to work as a way of getting a bit more exercise.

Exercise (11)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. It is clear that there are arguments for and against taking up in a neighbourhood.
2. It was a memorable year on and off the course, but my wedding day takes the
3. The impeachment of President Joseph Estrada take the off the region's most volatile democracy.
4. If you want to make this program a success, you will have to take the by the horns and do it yourself.
5. Infected people cannot work, and others must take time to care for them.
6. You have got to get rid of this chair! It's taking too much in the living room.
7. Have each group take gluing their items side by side on the graph.
8. That is exactly right! You took the right out of my mouth!
9. It may also take the off withdrawal symptoms such as irritability, headaches, and lethargy.
10. When people read the words 'Free Gift' on a magazine they usually swallow the and buy it.

Answers;

- 1. residence 2. cake 3. lid 4. bull 5. off 6. space 7. turns 8. words 9. edge 10. bait*

Get; Collocations and Phrases

Dialogue (1)

Jane: You're not going to **get ahead** until you **get a grip on yourself**. You can't **get carried away** expressing your frustration. This will clearly take its toll on your health and progress.

Jo: I go along with you; but I keep **getting mixed up in** these conflicts against my will. Honestly; I feel like it's almost impossible to get a job in this city.

Jan: **Don't let one rejection letter get you down!** Chill out and **hold your head above the water**. There are plenty of opportunities for everyone one but with this attitude you're unlikely to even notice them.

Jo: I don't think so! People simply suck! They think that they will possess you if they offer you a job. Anyway! I just need to **get my brain into gear** to make a better decision. Probably it's time to go overseas! I'll definitely **get my dues over** there.

Jane: **Don't get me wrong;** Jo! As they say wherever you go, there you are. You need to **get the facts straight;** darling! **Get your acts together** and things will rectify themselves.

Jo: I'm **getting a lot of grief** from everyone these days! Take it easy on me for heaven's sake – I can't take anymore criticism.

Jane: Excuse me! I'm just trying to stand by your side to get out of this mess! Why don't you work as a babysitter? This job fits in with your expectations as you don't have anyone to boss you around. Moreover; you can **get a free ride** living with those families. You don't even have to pay rent.

Jo: Wow! Brilliant idea! I have never thought like that before! Thanks for this nice suggestion; Jane! You literally **got me off the hook**.

Jane: Well; my cousin, Amanda, is looking for a nanny for her daughters. Shall I give her a call and recommend you for that job? She's very kind; I bet you'll **get along very well with** her.

Jo: I'm really looking forward to it! Actually; I know Amanda just by sight. Last year I visited her gallery after it **got a lot of good press**.

get/be carried away: to become excessive in one's enthusiasm, excitement, zeal, etc.

We must take care not to be carried away by our achievements.

We should not get carried away with good news on the deficit!

get/be mixed up in/with: to be involved or implicated in something negative or troublesome.

Thankfully, none of us was mixed up in that corruption scandal.

Don't let (someone or something) get you down: Don't allow someone or something to cause you to feel saddened, depressed, discouraged, or dejected.

When hard times arrive and you don't feel alive; don't let it get you down!

get (one) wrong: to misunderstand one.

You got me wrong if you think I'm switching. I believe in the struggle.

get (one's) brain in gear: to start thinking clearly and productively.

She'd tried desperately to get her brain in gear, recall the notes she'd made!

get the facts straight: to know and understand the facts of a situation.

Before discussing the shortcomings of the standard assertions and proposing an alternative answer, it is necessary to get a few facts straight.

get a grip/hold on (oneself): to control one's reactions or emotions, especially during or after a stressful situation.

After losing her job, Jill needed to calm down and get a grip on herself in order to drive home safely.

get one's act together: to get oneself organized and on schedule.

You will have to all get your acts together before you can take a trip that far.

get/go along with (someone) = get on well with (someone): to have a pleasant relationship with someone; to be friends with someone.

The boys found it hard to get along with Tom, because he always said some very belligerent things.

get (a) bad/good press: to receive negative/positive coverage by the media.

The government's policy on mental health care is getting an increasingly bad press.

get/have a free ride: to get some benefit, advantage, or special treatment without earning it or paying for it.

They also are concerned that undeserving employees will get a free ride on the coattails of others and receive gains-haring bonuses even when their contribution has been minimal.

get (a lot of) grief (from someone): to receive strong criticism, disapproval.

I am getting a lot of grief by people who do not like the color of my skin.

get (one) off the hook: to free one from the responsibility of having to complete some task; to help one to avoid something.

It occurred to me that I might be able to get myself off the hook if I distracted her with some silly humor.

get (one's) dues: to give someone that which they deserve; to give the appropriate payment for services or work one has completed.

After all her hard work, I really hope Mary finally gets her dues.

get/keep/hold (one's) head above water: to (barely) avoid being consumed by a stressful or unpleasant situation (often related to work or finance).

Dwelling on your past misfortunes makes it hard to hold your head above the water.

Exercise (1)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. I've been trying to get my brain in long enough to think of a way out of this mess.
2. Hotel managers must be able to get with all kinds of people, even in stressful situations.
3. You didn't think you were going to get a free on the back of Democracy forever, did you?
4. Our recycling policy is getting a press.
5. It's not just news sites that need to get the facts Mistakes undermine your brand's credibility in the eyes of any reader.
6. The temporary separation was a chance for both of them to get their together.
7. Jo gets a lot of from other people because she is a nonconformist.
8. You have got me, Gerald. I will not steal from my esteemed teachers.
9. They would dance all around the church. Some of the men got away and ran down the road.
10. Make sure you don't get up with that awful gang! They will make your life a misery.

Answers;

1. gear 2. along 3. ride 4. good/bad 5. straight 6. acts 7. grief 8. wrong 9. carried 10. mixed

Dialogue (2)

Thomas: I'm going to **get gray hair from** dealing with this stupid car breaking down all the time.

Lisa: Just try to **get by** with it just a few more months! We're in no position to replace it currently.

Thomas: It's a shame we're so broke. Isn't it? We're barely **getting by** on this bad salary!

Lisa: Come on; darling! It's only a matter of time and things will be taking a turn for the better. When we start our own business and run it by ourselves, lack of money will be a thing of the past.

Thomas: Well, I don't think running a business is all roses! You know; lots of stuff may **get in the way** like staff, taxes, rent and the like.

Lisa: Don't blow things out of proportion. I took all of those matters into account; nothing **gets by me**! Cheer up and don't let frustration **get hold of you**.

Thomas: Way to go! I've been trying to **get hold of the broker** for three hours to no avail! He was supposed to send me some pictures of a shop downtown! He said he would **get back** to me in thirty minutes. I wonder what's taking him so long!

Lisa: Don't let him **get fresh with** you! Try to keep him at a distance or he'll take advantage of you.

Thomas: None can take me for a ride! All I care about is to **get my money's worth** and **getting away from** trouble. Never mind me; I know how to **get even** with him if steps out of the line.

Lisa: I won't let him **get away with** it if he deceives us. I know a very experienced lawyer who knows this stuff inside out.

Thomas: Good to have you; Lisa! You're doing your homework very well. I would have got lost long time ago without your support. I'm so relaxed that I **got everything off my chest**.

Lisa: You will **get my undivided attention** anytime! Let's **get going**! We can't stand here all day.

get (one's) money's worth: to get a proportionate or sufficient level of satisfaction on one's investment of money, time, effort, etc., in an item, event, or activity.

We certainly didn't get our money's worth out of that toy—it broke in a day!

get/have/give (one's) undivided attention: to do something to become the sole thing that someone is focused on.

It's hard to get your ideas across to the students unless you get their undivided attention.

get something off one's chest: to unburden oneself; to confess something; to criticize or make a personal complaint to someone.

If something's bothering you, get it off your chest and tickle your mind.

get away from (someone or something): to move away from someone or something.

Many young men are trying to get away from compulsory military conscription!

get away with (something): to avoid the consequences of one's action.

She mistakenly believed that she could get away with not paying her taxes.

get back to (someone): to communicate with someone at a later time or date.

Jessie has difficulty keeping her word. She said she'd get back to us, but don't hold your breath!

get by

1. to live with the minimum amount of necessities required to survive.

Melville didn't get a good salary. He managed to get by on a small amount of money.

2. to perform just well enough not to fail.

We can get by with four computers at the moment, but we'll need a couple more when the new staff arrives.

3. to pass unnoticed.

The proofreader did his best not to let any mistakes get by.

get even: to exact revenge or do something as to equalize prior mistreatment.
He is so furious about their treatment of him that he's determined to get even.

get fresh with (one)

1. To treat one impolitely/inappropriately, especially by talking back.
Don't get fresh with your mother, young lady!
2. To show one's sexual interest in someone, often in a very forward.
He tries to not get fresh with clients or daughters of clients and yet isn't above shamelessly flirting with any moll.

get going

1. to start moving/doing something.
You'd better get going or you miss the bus.
2. to depart.
I find it very difficult to get going these wintery mornings.

get gray hair from (someone or something): to be exceedingly worried or stressed by or about something/someone.

How dare you travel with Mike? You'll get grey hair from his reckless driving.

get hold of (one)

1. To successfully make contact and communicate with one.
Mr. Tom spent several hours trying to get hold of his lawyer.
2. To gain total control, influence, or power over one.
If the newspapers get hold of this scandal, they'll really have a field day!
But first the teen-ager had to get hold of his emotions.

get in the way: to obstruct or interfere with something.

These templates simply get in the way and devalue our product.

Exercise (2)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. We've been trying to get to you, Tom, but we think we took your number down incorrectly.
2. They need this cup of coffee to get in the morning.
3. The best way to get with the jerks from high school is to become successful.
5. Do you think I can get with this dress, or is it too unsuitable for the party?
6. She wanted to get from the traditional ideas of what theatre is about.
7. The child ought to be punished. You shouldn't let him get with you.

Answers;

- 1. back 2. going 3. even 5. by 6. away 7. fresh*

Dialogue (3)

Steven: All candidates are playing the economy card! They claim they are going to **get the economy into shape**.

Charley: You know what? I **get goose bumps** every time I hear about politics; but you can't **get blood out of a stone!** I mean someone has to **get those guys into shape** in the first place. They are all talk and no action.

Steven: We're literally racing against the clock! The new government must take urgent measures to stop the country from **getting into more debt**.

Charley: We have been **getting into trouble** since the ex-prime minister made a deal with the international bank to take control of our economy to give us loans.

Steven: Seriously? Things are literally **getting nasty!** Then; we can't **get anywhere** without paying those loans back! Can we?

Charley: It doesn't take a genius to figure this matter out! It's as plain as day! Things are unlikely to **get better** unless we regain our independence and the ability to make our own decisions without foreign dictations or influences.

Steven: Let me turn off the TV! It's starting to **get on my nerves**.

Charley: Don't take it out on the TV and let's go for a run. You need some workout to keep your mind off politics. You really need to **get into shape** – your sedentary lifestyle has given you quite a belly! Dwelling on this nonsense (politics) will get you nowhere! It takes a miracle to **get us out of** this rut.

Steven: Right! I need to do some exercise before things **get out of control!** The other day I had a short run to catch up the bus and I went out of breath in a minute.

Charley: What a shame! You can't **get out of** paying the price for your idleness. Come on let's get going!

Steven: Oh! Hold on - I must have left my phone in the car! Just give me a minute to **get my bearings** - I feel like my head is spinning!

Charley: Take your time; I have to dash! **Get in touch with** me when you get your bearings. OK?

Steven: Touché.

get in touch (with one): to initiate or establish contact or communication with one

I really ought to get in touch with Paula. It's been months since we last spoke!

get better: to improve; to recover from an illness.

You'll gradually get better at it - it's just a question of practice.

get goose pimples/bumps: to get bumps on one's skin where one's body hair stands on end as the result of an intense feeling of cold, nervousness, anxiety, excitement, or fear.

Some people get goose bumps when they hear a symphony or behold the valley from the top of a mountain.

get into debt: to come to be in a position of owing money to someone or something.

I can't take such a risk! We're going to pay for that car every month for five years. Ken, you know I'm afraid of getting into debt.

get (someone or something) into shape: to return someone or something into acceptable condition or behavior, especially through direct and efficient means.

What renovations or decorating are needed to get the premises into shape? But it was obvious that a more coherent and longer term therapy was needed to get the economy in shape.

get in(to) shape: to work to have good, robust health; to become strong or fit.

Players used training camp as a time to get into shape for the season.

get in(to) trouble

1. To be subject to punishment for a particular offense or wrongdoing.

I hope you won't get into trouble because of what I said to your dad.

2. To encounter a problematic situation or state of hardship.

Her sister, 10-year-old Claire, was amazed that people could make rude jokes and not get into trouble for it.

get nasty: to become unpleasant or troublesome.

She was going to need plenty of rest, because if things got nasty, she needed to be physically prepared.

get on (one's) nerves: to irritate, grate on, or exasperate one.

She's always moaning. It really gets on my nerves.

get blood out of a stone: to do something that is very hard to accomplish, especially when dealing with other people in some way.

I realized he was just trying to get money out of me, which was like trying to get blood out of a stone.

get (one) nowhere: to result in no progress for one at all; to be stuck or at an impasse.

If you do work hard and don't show your talents; you'll get nowhere.

Discussing all these details will get us nowhere; we must get back to first principles.

get (one's) bearings: to recognize or determine one's orientation, position, or abilities relative to one's surroundings or situation.

Everything was in darkness and it was difficult to get my bearings.

It takes a while to get your bearings when you start a new job.

get out of (something): to escape or extricate oneself from a troublesome, difficult, unpleasant, or burdensome situation or circumstance.

How did we get into this recession, and what can we do to get out of it?

I was supposed to stay at home with my baby sister today, but I'll try to get out of it.

get/go out of control: to become reckless or wild; to be in an unruly or unmanageable.

The government have to grasp the nettle. Or the traffic congestion is going to get out of control.

Suddenly she felt angry with herself for having let her emotions get out of control.

Exercise (3)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. A lot of kids don't have enough to do in their spare time, and that's why they get into
2. Watching swimming practice does not get the spectator into good for competition. In order to get into shape, you need to be in the pool.
3. The man just got and had his sons put my friend off the property.
4. I got listening to the stories about how their business has improved and the successes they've made.
5. Many people get into simply because of their ignorance: they don't know how much their credit is costing them, or the implications of minimum payments.
6. It was a bright spring day and very few were wearing coats, so getting the class into did not take long.
7. It really gets on my when people hang up without leaving a message.
8. Can I have your phone number in case I need to get in with you?
9. It took two years for me to get, during which time he spoon-fed me and did absolutely everything around the house.
10. Getting any sense out of Ethel had always been like getting out of a stone.

Answers;

- 1. trouble 2. shape 3. nasty 4. goose bumps 5. debt 6. shape 7. nerves 8. touch 9. better 10. blood*

Dialogue (4)

Jack: So it was your wife who signed the contract on your behalf? OK, now we're **getting somewhere**.

Michael: What do you want me to do? **Get rid of her?**

Jack: No; not at all – What I want to say is unless you put a stop to her irresponsible acts, she will interpret your inaction as a sign that she has **got the green light** to keep on.

Michael: I'm **getting more and more pissed off** but I have my hands tied. You must understand that her father is the owner of the business.

Jack: **I get the message!** But you've **got to get your head out of the clouds** before it's too late. The project is being screwed up and you're standing idle.

Michael: I made a call to my father in law. He said that he **got the gist** and asked to see me in person to learn more details.

Jack: That's good to hear. If he intervenes and puts the brakes on her, we are very likely to **get somewhere**.

Michael: But I'm **getting cold feet** already! If Jessie knew I made a complaint to her father; that would definitely **get under her skin**. She's very touchy!

Jack: Never mind! She may make a fuss but she will **get over it** very soon. Tell me about women!

Michael: I'm afraid she **gets the wrong side off the stick** and thinks that I'm putting the screws on her.

Jack: What a chicken. Alright! I'll take responsibility for the whole thing even if I ended up the scapegoat. I've no intentions to **get to the top** after all.

Michael: How come?

Jack: I'll take advantage of her illness and go to her office to say '**get well soon**'. Then, I'll fill her in on all the matter. Who knows? She might be more cooperative than we think. Anyway; **get ready** for the big end!

Michael: Fingers crossed!

get over: to overcome a difficulty or to recover from an illness or the effects of bad experiences.

She was only just getting over the flu when she got a stomach bug.

It took him years to get over the shock of his wife dying.

get the gist: to understand the central, essential, or general matter of something.

Bear in mind that readers expect to get the gist of the report through the first paragraph.

I can't remember her exact words, but I got the gist of what she said.

get the green light: to receive permission to proceed with some action or task.

As soon as we get the green light, we'll start advertising for new staff.

get the message/ picture: to understand the real meaning of what someone is trying to communicate.

I get the picture. You want me to say you were at my house last night.

I want this work finished before you go home—got the message?

get hold of the wrong end of the stick: to misunderstand something.

You've got the wrong end of the stick; he doesn't owe me money, I owe him!

My mum got the wrong end of the stick and thought that Jim was my boyfriend.

get to the top (of something): to become important or renowned in some field or area.

You have to be a very dedicated musician to get to the top.

You earn loads if you get to the top in that profession.

get well soon: a friendly or polite phrase used to wish someone well when they are ill.

I received a framed photograph of Sachin Tendulkar, signed by him with a note, "Get well soon."

We were all hoping that Rick would get well soon!

get ready: to prepare for something.

Susan was on the wing doing things to get ready for her trip.

Why does it take you so long to get ready to go out?

get rid of (someone or something): to discard, eliminate, or become free from something or someone.

He believed that his manager wanted to get rid of him for personal reasons.

The mother wanted her little son to get rid of the bad habit of picking at his food?

get somewhere: to make or begin making progress.

Keep up the hard work and rest assured you'll get somewhere.

I want to get somewhere; I don't want to be a crook or thief all my life.

get under (one's) skin: to become a source of irritation.

Something about him had got under her skin. Probably his smell.

get ones head out of the clouds: stop daydreaming or fantasizing and focus on reality.

She has made a mess of her life following that illusion! It's time she got her head out of the clouds.

You can't get anywhere unless you get your head out of the clouds and cope with reality!

get cold feet: to experience nervousness or anxiety before one attempts to do something, often to the extent that one tries to avoid it.

He gets cold feet and phones his bank manager asking him to stop the cheque.

get pissed off: to become very disgruntled, angry, or outraged.

There's no point in getting pissed off over a bad grade on your exam. Just study harder next time!

Exercise (4)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. It took her months to get Michael when he ended the relationship.
2. We're willing to do what it takes to turn the business around and get
3. Tidy up the room and plump up the cushions to get for our guests.
4. The committee needs to be shaken out to get of some of the elderly members.
5. You have to be willing to change jobs frequently if you want to get to the in business.
6. We heard that your sister is in hospital. We wish she gets soon.
7. Over the past five years, automakers got the that they must supply airbags and antilock brakes to satisfy buyers.
8. I've noticed that little things have been getting under my lately – things that shouldn't upset me.
9. People who think the song is about drugs have got the wrong end of the
10. He was going to ask her out but he got cold and said nothing.

Answers;

- 1. over 2. somewhere 3. ready 4. rid 5. top 6. well 7. message 8. skin 9. stick 10. feet*

Dialogue (5)

Alice: Yikes, you must have **gotten wet** in that sudden downpour.

Nancy: Yeah; right! I always seem to catch a cold after these bad experiences.

Alice: Then; it's unlikely to **get together** on Friday! Sounds like our plans are already foiled. Aren't they?

Nancy: Well; I don't feel like going out this Friday. You know; it's easy to **get worked up** when you're tired and everything seems to be against you.

Alice: All kidding aside; I'm getting the impression that you haven't got over your divorce yet.

Nancy: As a matter of fact I thought that after **getting divorced**, I'll get some peace of mind; but I'm **getting nowhere**.

Alice: I'm unlikely to **get tied up** in a relationship after I beheld how **fed up you were** of your marriage.

Nancy: Oh; I've clearly set a bad example to you by this setback. No two people on earth are alike. You ought to try your chance because you are way more easy-going and patient than me.

Alice: Currently; I have no intentions to **get tied up** as I **get itchy feet** every now and then. Look; I'm as free as a bird and I can do whatever strikes my fancy. Whenever I feel boxed up or fed up, I book a ticket, pack my bag, **get dressed** and take a flight.

Nancy: You know what? I envy you for your carefree lifestyle.

Alice: Everybody says that to me, but I guess they don't **have the guts up** at least **to** take a decision to lead the life they desire. I wonder what's getting in their way!

Nancy: Some are scared of **getting the sack**. Other are scared of **getting used to** their freedom like me.

Alice: You must be kidding! That's so farfetched and extraordinary. Anyway I'm bound to find a way to **get through to** you.

Nancy: Go for it! I'll get back to you after I **get through** with this the pile of reports.

Alice: Good day.

get the guts up (to do something): to muster or draw upon one's courage or resolve to do something.

I hope Jonathan finally gets the guts up to ask his boss for a raise.

get through

1. to be able to reach or contact someone.

Nope, the line is busy—I can't get through to them right now.

2. to complete something.

Once I get through my last year of school, I'm taking a long vacation, that's for sure!

get used to (something/ doing something): to become acclimated to or comfortable with something.

Without patience you'll have a hard time getting used to diving in deep water.

Time won't ease your pain but let you get used to it.

get/have itchy feet: to feel the urge to stray from one's routine, often by traveling.

He never stays in a job long. He gets itchy feet after two or three years.

get tied up/caught/stuck: to be or become detained or delayed by someone, something, or some task.

Kelly got tied up in traffic and it was nearly five when he got to the donut shop.

get worked up: upset or very excited about something.

Hodge tended to hit the gas then let up all of sudden whenever he got worked up about something.

get the sack/ get fired: to be dismissed from a job.

Two workers got the sack for fighting in the warehouse.

get dressed: to put on clothes.

You'd better get dressed and cheer up. The guests are coming any minute.

get fed up with/of: bored, annoyed, or disappointed, especially by something that you have experienced for too long.

He got fed up of people yawning at him when he talked about his job.

Eventually I got fed up with waiting and went round to the timber yard.

get the impression: to form an opinion or a feeling following some experience.

I got the impression that he was frightened, as if he had seen a ghost.

I got the impression we were risking millions of dollars and hundreds of lives on a game of luck.

get divorced: to end a marriage.

When they got divorced, his wife squeezed him dry and took everything.

get/ catch a cold: to become ill with the common cold.

Can I be excused from swimming today? I've got a cold.

I've got a cold and so I have lost my sense of taste.

get together: gather or assemble socially or to cooperate.

We get together once a month for a mutual exchange of ideas.

We hope your family and my family can get together for a celebration like last year.

get wet: to become moist or soaked with water.

It has started to shower; I'm sure to get wet.

Exercise (5)

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the expressions above;

1. Aid agencies have been unable to get to the thousands of refugees stranded on the border.
2. The rumour was that Peace was told he would get the, if he dared to criticize Andrew's conduct again.
3. The boy was always late because it took so long to get
4. I've only been back home for a few months and I've already got itchy
.....
5. You must get to getting up early as long as you're willing to get in shape.
6. Steven failed to show up because he got up in a meeting.
7. We got the that Sally wasn't very pleased to see us.
8. Jack just felt he had better things to do with his time than get up about stuff.
9. I wanted to ask Mary Sue to the prom, but I couldn't get the up.
10. I'll go with you when I get with this pile of papers.

Answers;

1. *through* 2. *sack* 3. *dressed* 4. *feet* 5. *used* 6. *tied* 7. *impression* 8. *worked* 9. *guts* 10. *through*

Other Works by the Author;

Advanced English Conversations: *Speak English Like a Native: More than 1000 common phrases and idioms presented through day-to-day handy dialogue;*

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07Z2SB6BB>

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